MARVEL MASTERWORKS®

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

VOLUME 11

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN Nos. 100-109

STAN LEE, ROY THOMAS,
GIL KANE & JOHN ROMITA

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SPIDER-MAN
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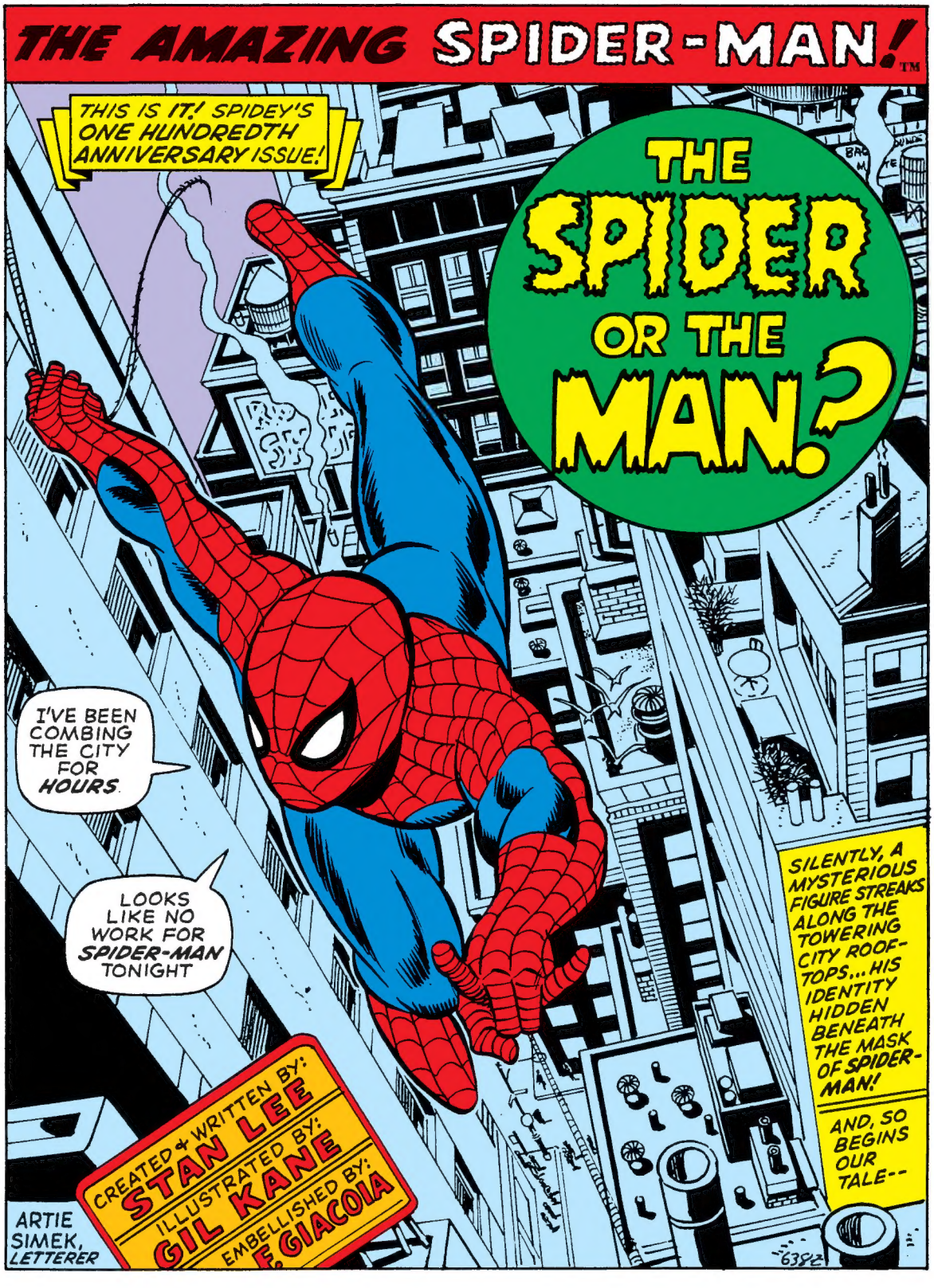
MARVEL COMICS GROUP
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THE SPIDER OR THE MAN?
AT LAST! THE GREAT, LONG-AWAITED
100TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!
WITH THE WILDEST SHOCK-ENDING OF ALL TIME!


THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
THIS IS IT! SPIDEY'S ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE!
THE SPIDER OR THE MAN?
I'VE BEEN COMBING THE CITY FOR HOURS.
LOOKS LIKE NO WORK FOR SPIDER-MAN TONIGHT
SILENTLY, A MYSTERIOUS FIGURE STREAKS ALONG THE TOWERING CITY ROOF-TOPS... HIS IDENTITY HIDDEN BENEATH THE MASK OF SPIDER-MAN!
AND, SO BEGINS OUR TALE--
CREATED & WRITTEN BY: STAN LEE
ILLUSTRATED BY: GIL KANE
EMBELLISHED BY: F. GIACOIA
ARTIE SIMEK, LETTERER

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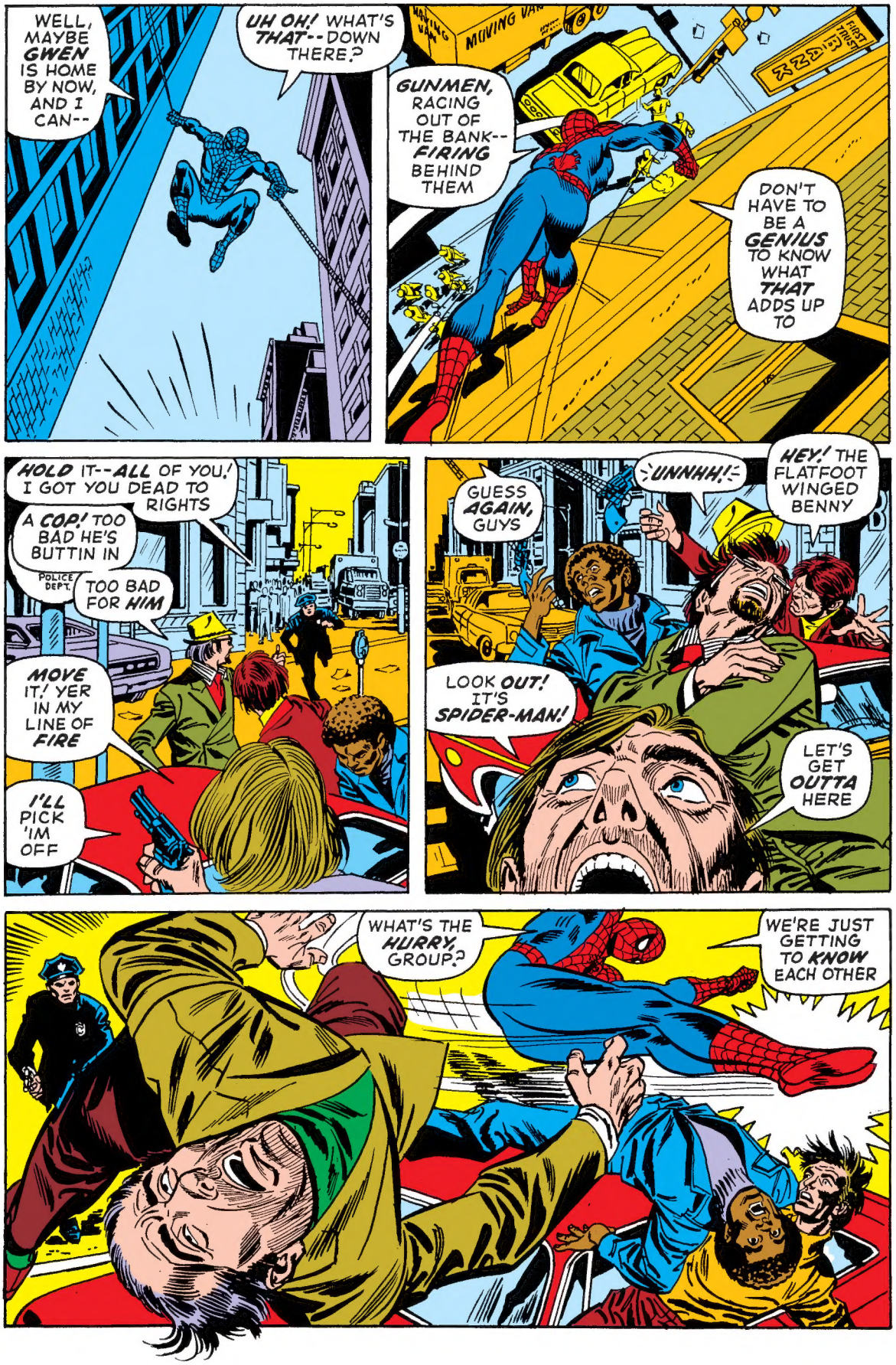
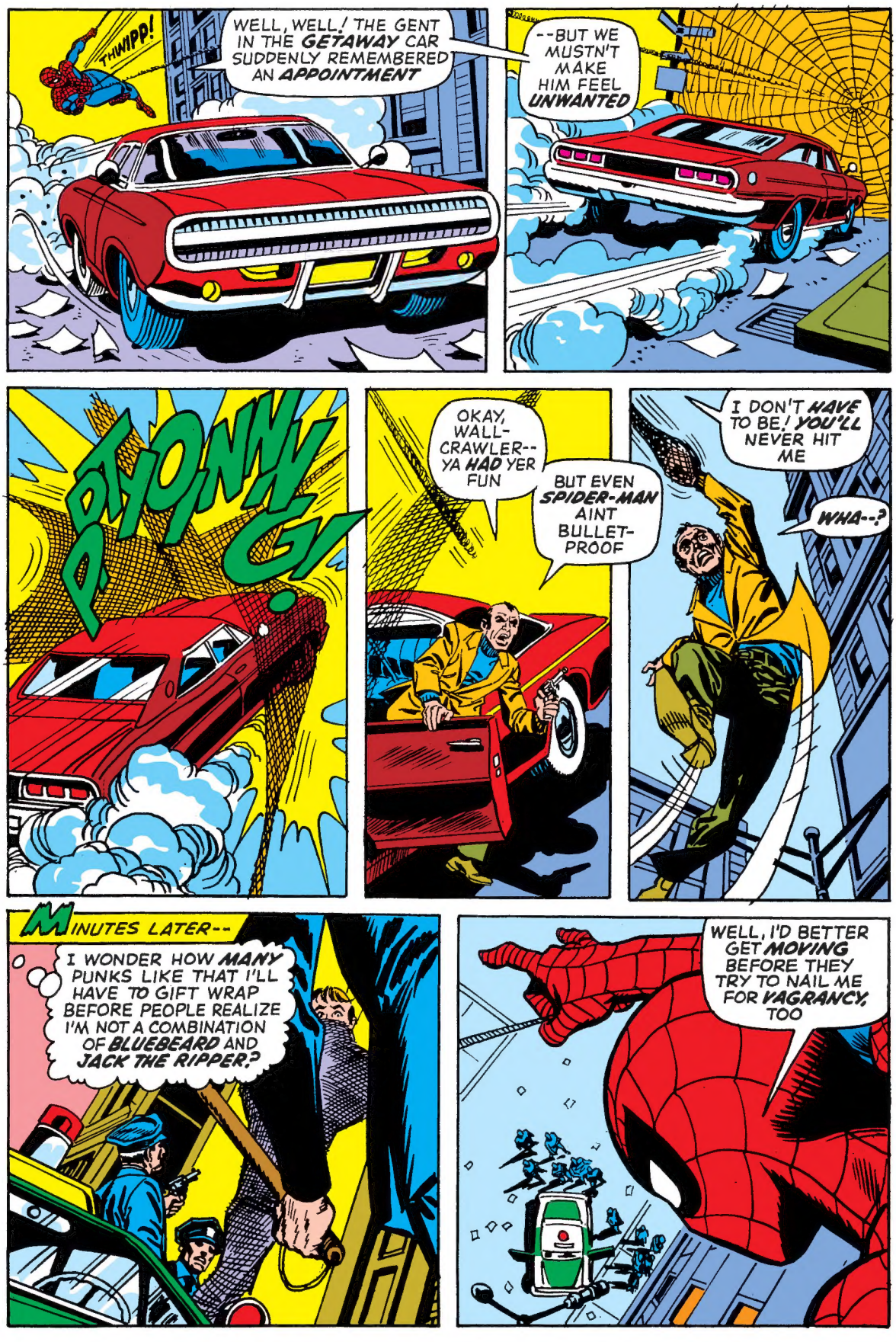
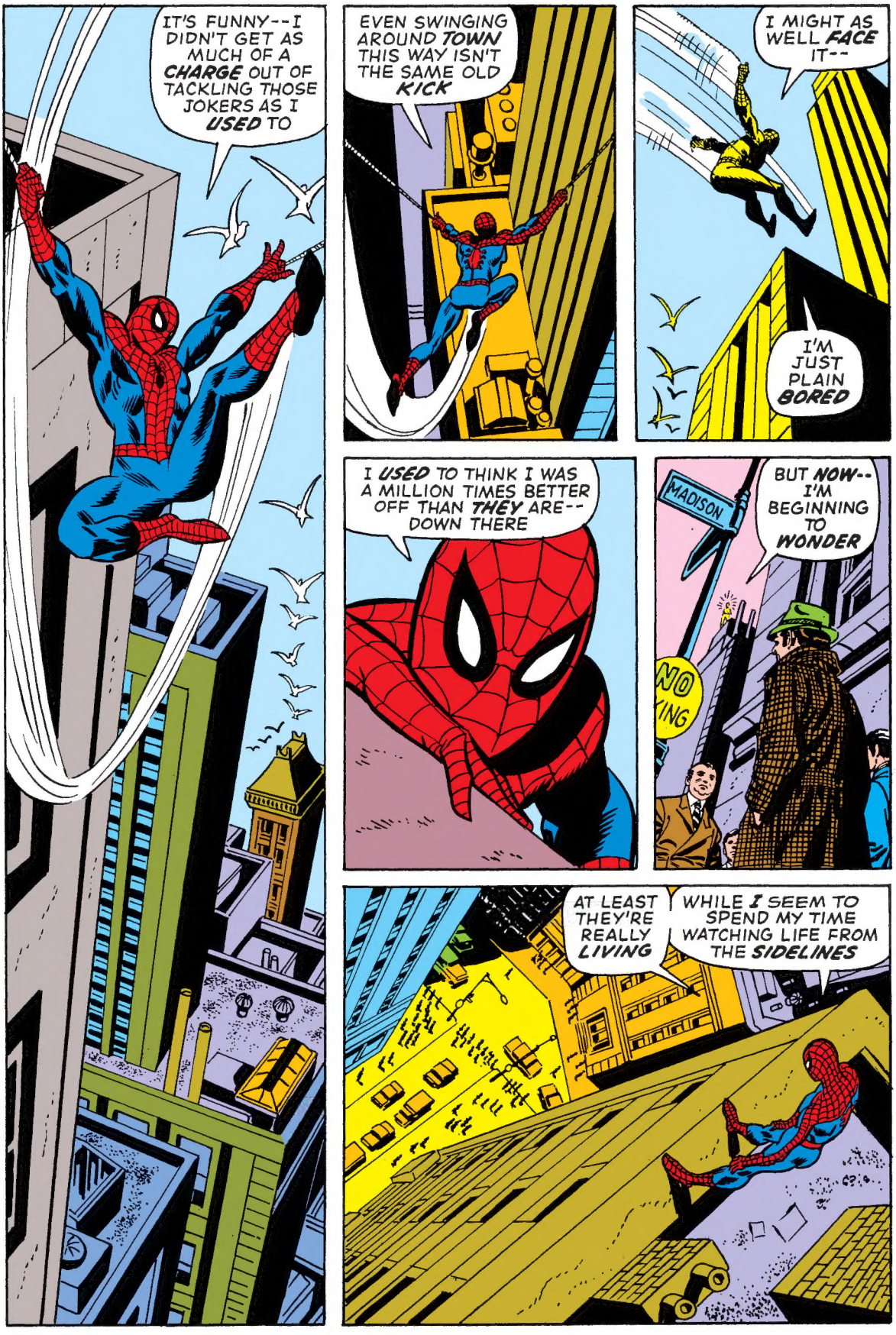
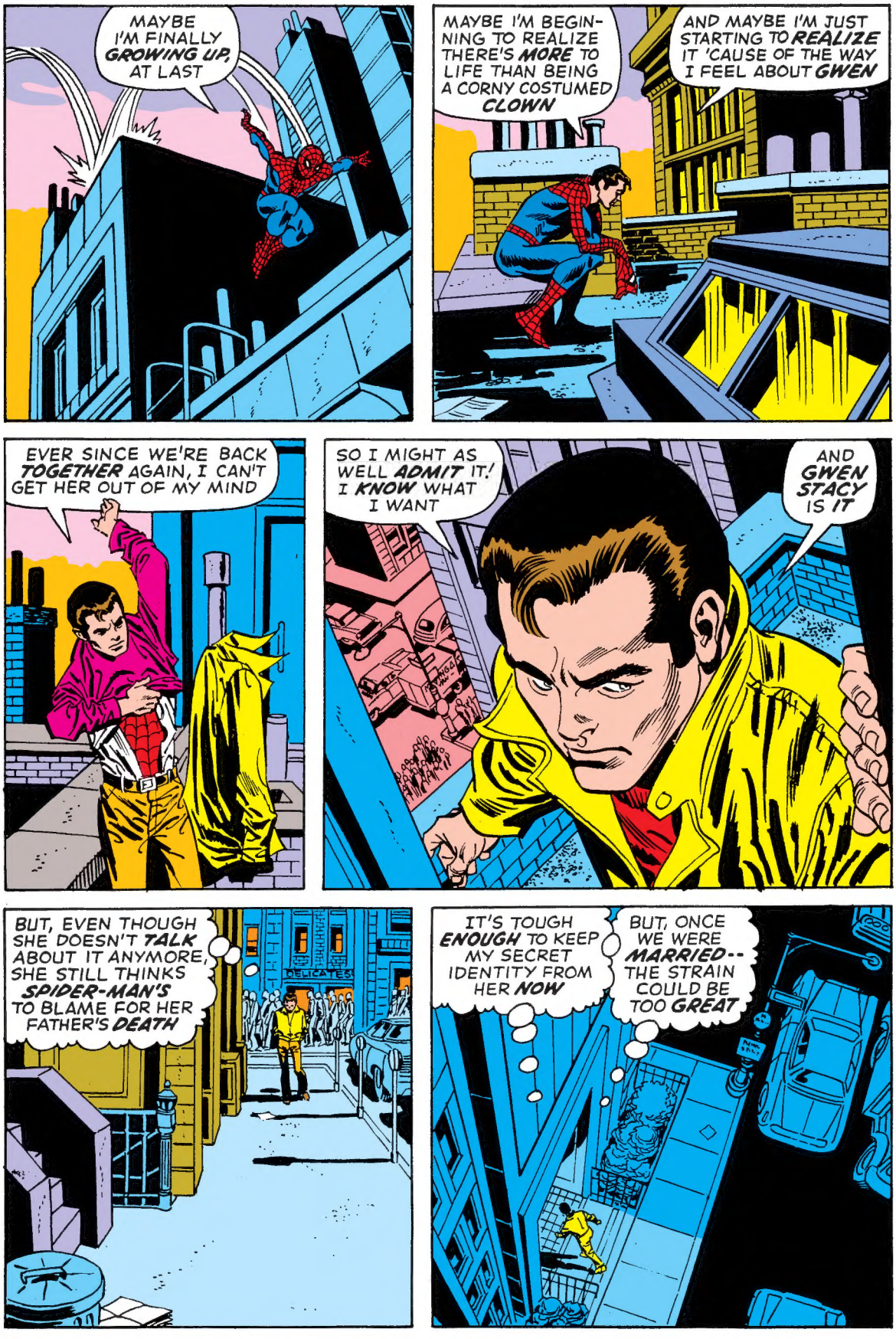
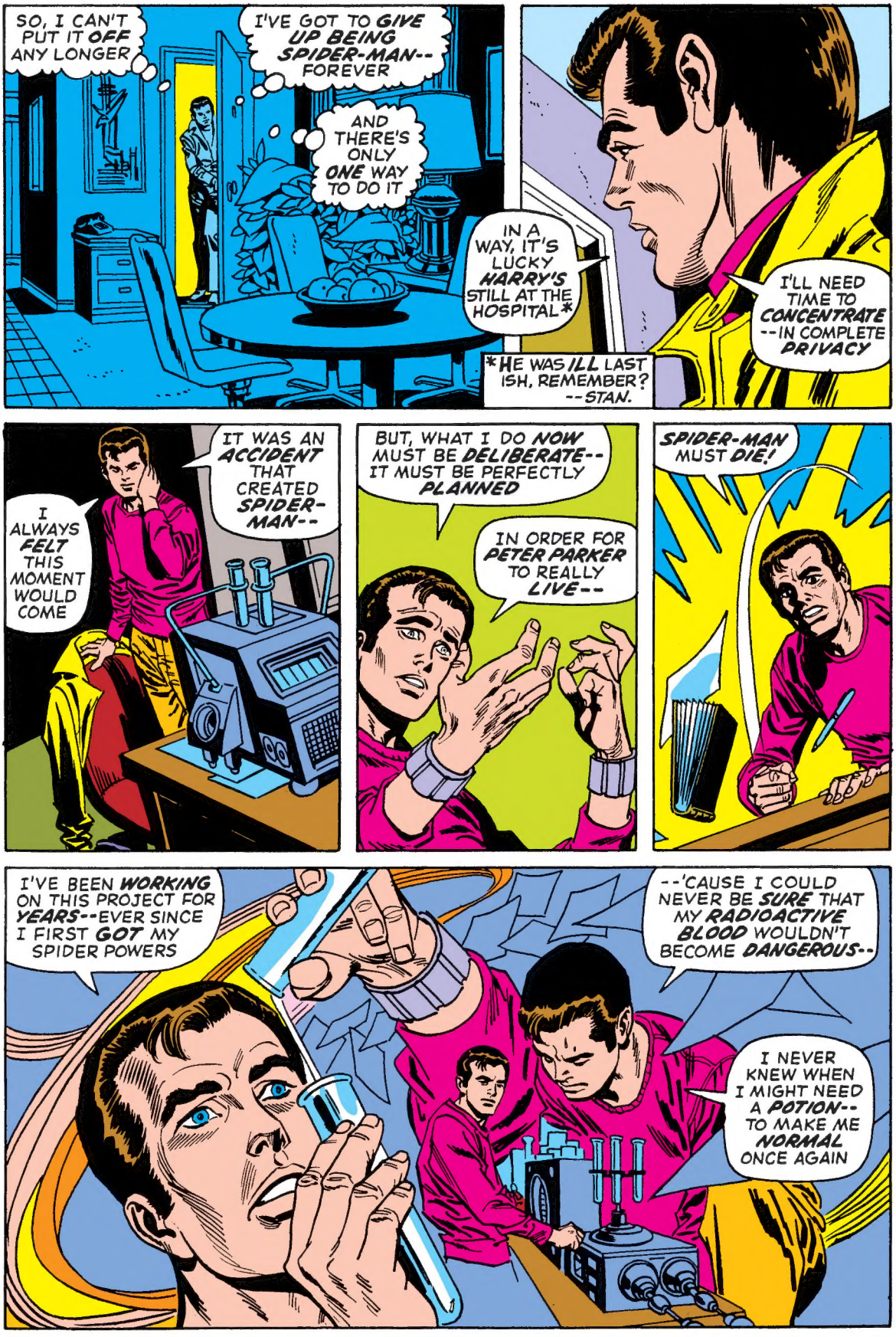
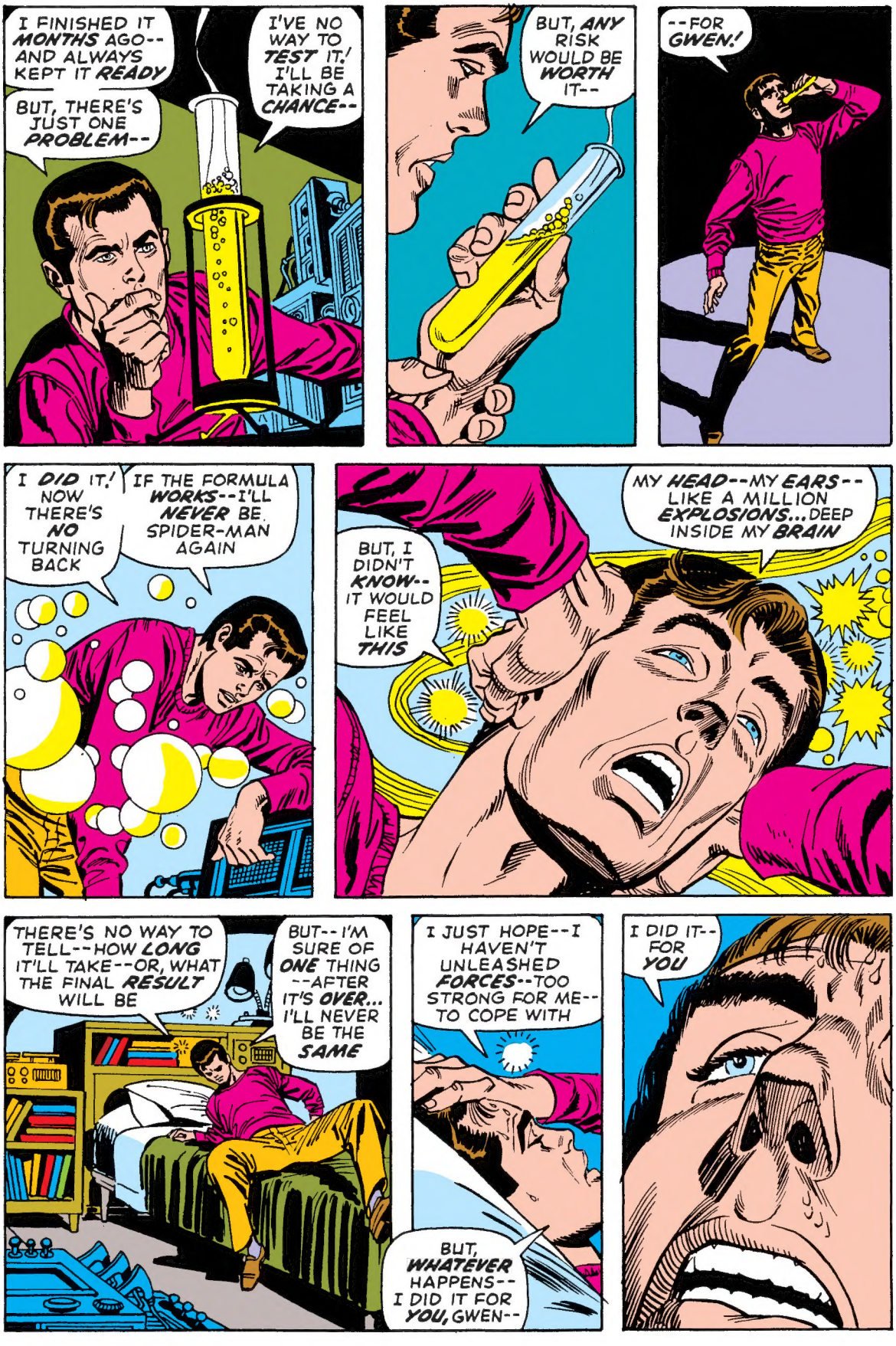

WELL, MAYBE GWEN IS HOME BY NOW, AND I CAN--
UH OH! WHAT'S THAT--DOWN THERE?
GUNMEN, RACING OUT OF THE BANK--FIRING BEHIND THEM
DON'T HAVE TO BE A GENIUS TO KNOW WHAT THAT ADDS UP TO
HOLD IT--ALL OF YOU! I GOT YOU DEAD TO RIGHTS
A COP! TOO BAD HE'S BUTTIN IN
POLICE DEPT.
TOO BAD FOR HIM
MOVE IT! YER IN MY LINE OF FIRE
I'LL PICK 'IM OFF
:UNNHH!:
GUESS AGAIN, GUYS
HEY! THE FLATFOOT WINGED BENNY
LOOK OUT! IT'S SPIDER-MAN!
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE
WHAT'S THE HURRY, GROUP?
WE'RE JUST GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

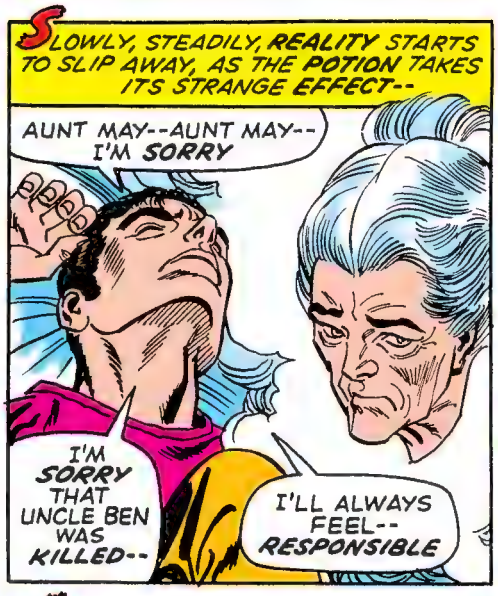

THWIPP!
WELL, WELL! THE GENT IN THE GETAWAY CAR SUDDENLY REMEMBERED AN APPOINTMENT
--BUT WE MUSTN'T MAKE HIM FEEL UNWANTED
PYONNG!
OKAY, WALL-CRAWLER-- YA HAD YER FUN
BUT EVEN SPIDER-MAN AINT BULLET-PROOF
I DON'T HAVE TO BE! YOU'LL NEVER HIT ME
WHA--?
MINUTES LATER--
I WONDER HOW MANY PUNKS LIKE THAT I'LL HAVE TO GIFT WRAP BEFORE PEOPLE REALIZE I'M NOT A COMBINATION OF BLUEBEARD AND JACK THE RIPPER?
WELL, I'D BETTER GET MOVING BEFORE THEY TRY TO NAIL ME FOR VAGRANCY, TOO


IT'S FUNNY--I DIDN'T GET AS MUCH OF A CHARGE OUT OF TACKLING THOSE JOKERS AS I USED TO
EVEN SWINGING AROUND TOWN THIS WAY ISN'T THE SAME OLD KICK
I MIGHT AS WELL FACE IT--
I'M JUST PLAIN BORED
I USED TO THINK I WAS A MILLION TIMES BETTER OFF THAN THEY ARE-- DOWN THERE
MADISON
BUT NOW-- I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER
AT LEAST THEY'RE REALLY LIVING
WHILE I SEEM TO SPEND MY TIME WATCHING LIFE FROM THE SIDELINES

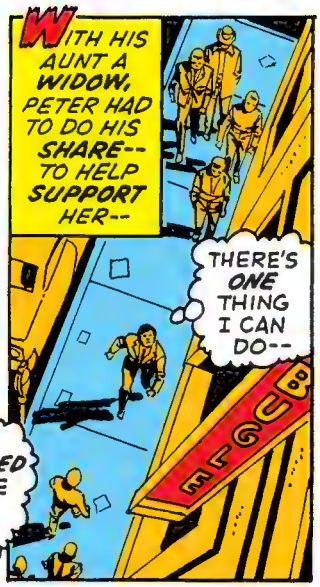

MAYBE I'M FINALLY GROWING UP, AT LAST
MAYBE I'M BEGINNING TO REALIZE THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN BEING A CORNY COSTUMED CLOWN
AND MAYBE I'M JUST STARTING TO REALIZE IT 'CAUSE OF THE WAY I FEEL ABOUT GWEN
EVER SINCE WE'RE BACK TOGETHER AGAIN, I CAN'T GET HER OUT OF MY MIND
SO I MIGHT AS WELL ADMIT IT! I KNOW WHAT I WANT
AND GWEN STACY IS IT
BUT, EVEN THOUGH SHE DOESN'T TALK ABOUT IT ANYMORE, SHE STILL THINKS SPIDER-MAN'S TO BLAME FOR HER FATHER'S DEATH
DELICATES
IT'S TOUGH ENOUGH TO KEEP MY SECRET IDENTITY FROM HER NOW
BUT, ONCE WE WERE MARRIED-- THE STRAIN COULD BE TOO GREAT

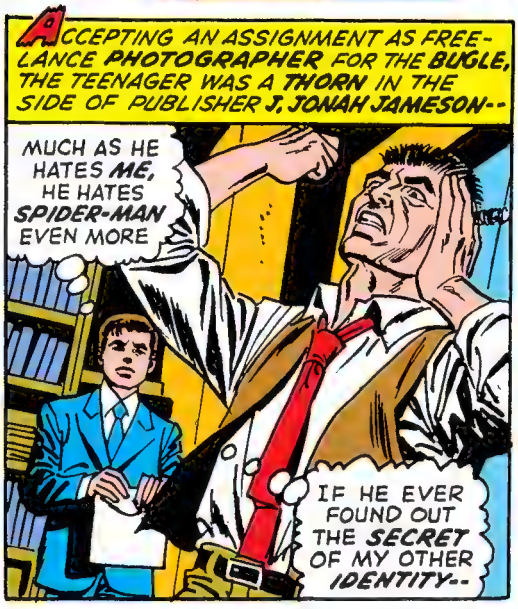

SO, I CAN'T PUT IT OFF ANY LONGER
I'VE GOT TO GIVE UP BEING SPIDER-MAN-- FOREVER
AND THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO DO IT
IN A WAY, IT'S LUCKY HARRY'S STILL AT THE HOSPITAL*
*HE WAS ILL LAST ISH, REMEMBER? --STAN.
I'LL NEED TIME TO CONCENTRATE --IN COMPLETE PRIVACY
I ALWAYS FELT THIS MOMENT WOULD COME
IT WAS AN ACCIDENT THAT CREATED SPIDER-MAN--
BUT, WHAT I DO NOW MUST BE DELIBERATE-- IT MUST BE PERFECTLY PLANNED
IN ORDER FOR PETER PARKER TO REALLY LIVE--
SPIDER-MAN MUST DIE!
I'VE BEEN WORKING ON THIS PROJECT FOR YEARS--EVER SINCE I FIRST GOT MY SPIDER POWERS
--'CAUSE I COULD NEVER BE SURE THAT MY RADIOACTIVE BLOOD WOULDN'T BECOME DANGEROUS--
I NEVER KNEW WHEN I MIGHT NEED A POTION-- TO MAKE ME NORMAL ONCE AGAIN


I FINISHED IT MONTHS AGO-- AND ALWAYS KEPT IT READY
BUT, THERE'S JUST ONE PROBLEM--
I'VE NO WAY TO TEST IT./ I'LL BE TAKING A CHANCE--
BUT, ANY RISK WOULD BE WORTH IT--
--FOR GWEN!
I DID IT./ NOW THERE'S NO TURNING BACK
IF THE FORMULA WORKS--I'LL NEVER BE SPIDER-MAN AGAIN
MY HEAD--MY EARS-- LIKE A MILLION EXPLOSIONS... DEEP INSIDE MY BRAIN
BUT, I DIDN'T KNOW-- IT WOULD FEEL LIKE THIS
THERE'S NO WAY TO TELL--HOW LONG IT'LL TAKE--OR, WHAT THE FINAL RESULT WILL BE
BUT--I'M SURE OF ONE THING --AFTER IT'S OVER... I'LL NEVER BE THE SAME
I JUST HOPE--I HAVEN'T UNLEASHED FORCES--TOO STRONG FOR ME-- TO COPE WITH
BUT, WHATEVER HAPPENS-- I DID IT FOR YOU, GWEN--
I DID IT-- FOR YOU

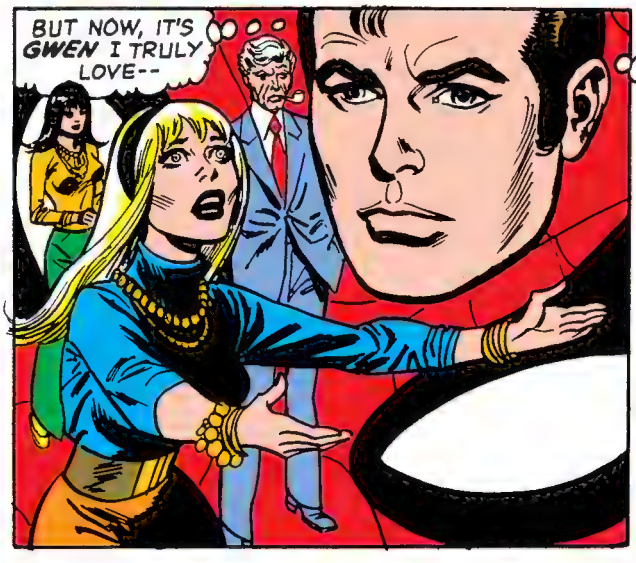

SLOWLY, STEADILY, REALITY STARTS TO SLIP AWAY, AS THE POTION TAKES ITS STRANGE EFFECT--
AUNT MAY--AUNT MAY--I'M SORRY
I'M SORRY THAT UNCLE BEN WAS KILLED--
I'LL ALWAYS FEEL--RESPONSIBLE

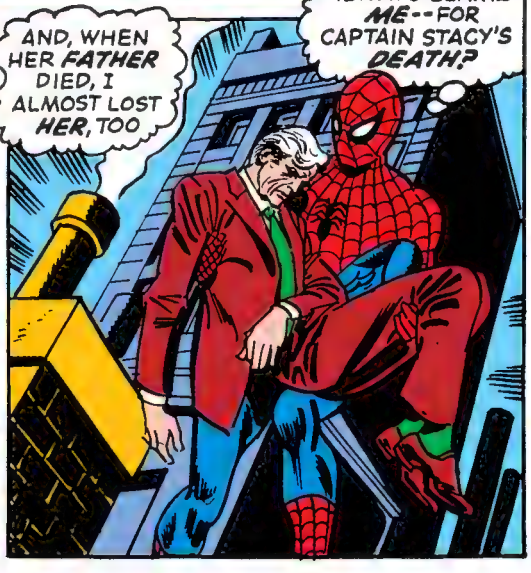
IN HIS MEMORY, PETER PARKER SEEMS TO RE-LIVE PORTIONS OF THE LONG-DEAD PAST--
SPIDER-MAN SAW THE MURDERER BEFORE THE CRIME WAS COMMITTED
IF ONLY I HAD STOPPED HIM--UNCLE BEN MIGHT NOT BE DEAD

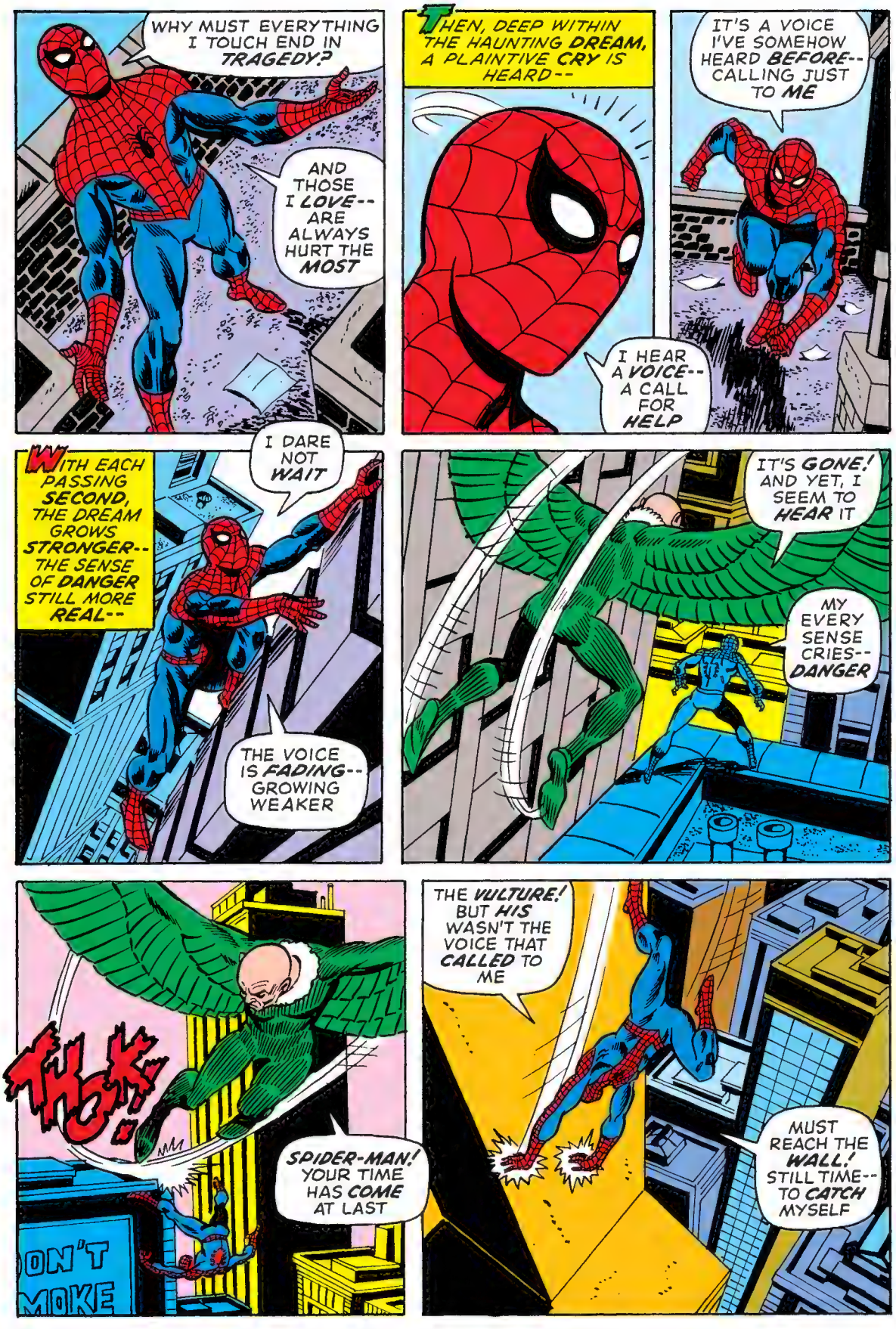

WITH HIS AUNT A WIDOW, PETER HAD TO DO HIS SHARE--TO HELP SUPPORT HER--
THERE'S ONE THING I CAN DO--

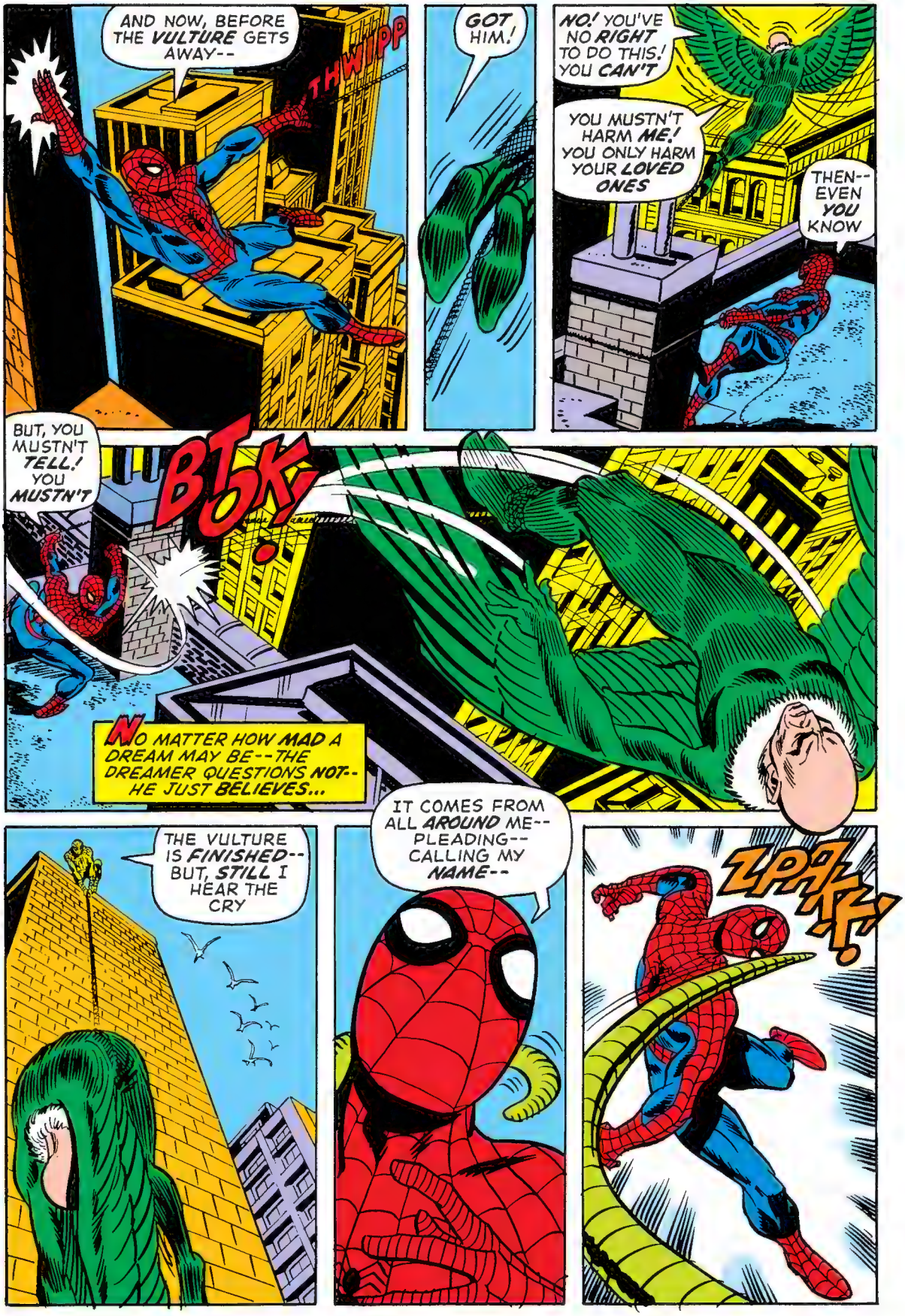

ACCEPTING AN ASSIGNMENT AS FREE-LANCE PHOTOGRAPHER FOR THE BUGLE, THE TEENAGER WAS A THORN IN THE SIDE OF PUBLISHER J. JONAH JAMESON--
MUCH AS HE HATES ME, HE HATES SPIDER-MAN EVEN MORE
IF HE EVER FOUND OUT THE SECRET OF MY OTHER IDENTITY--

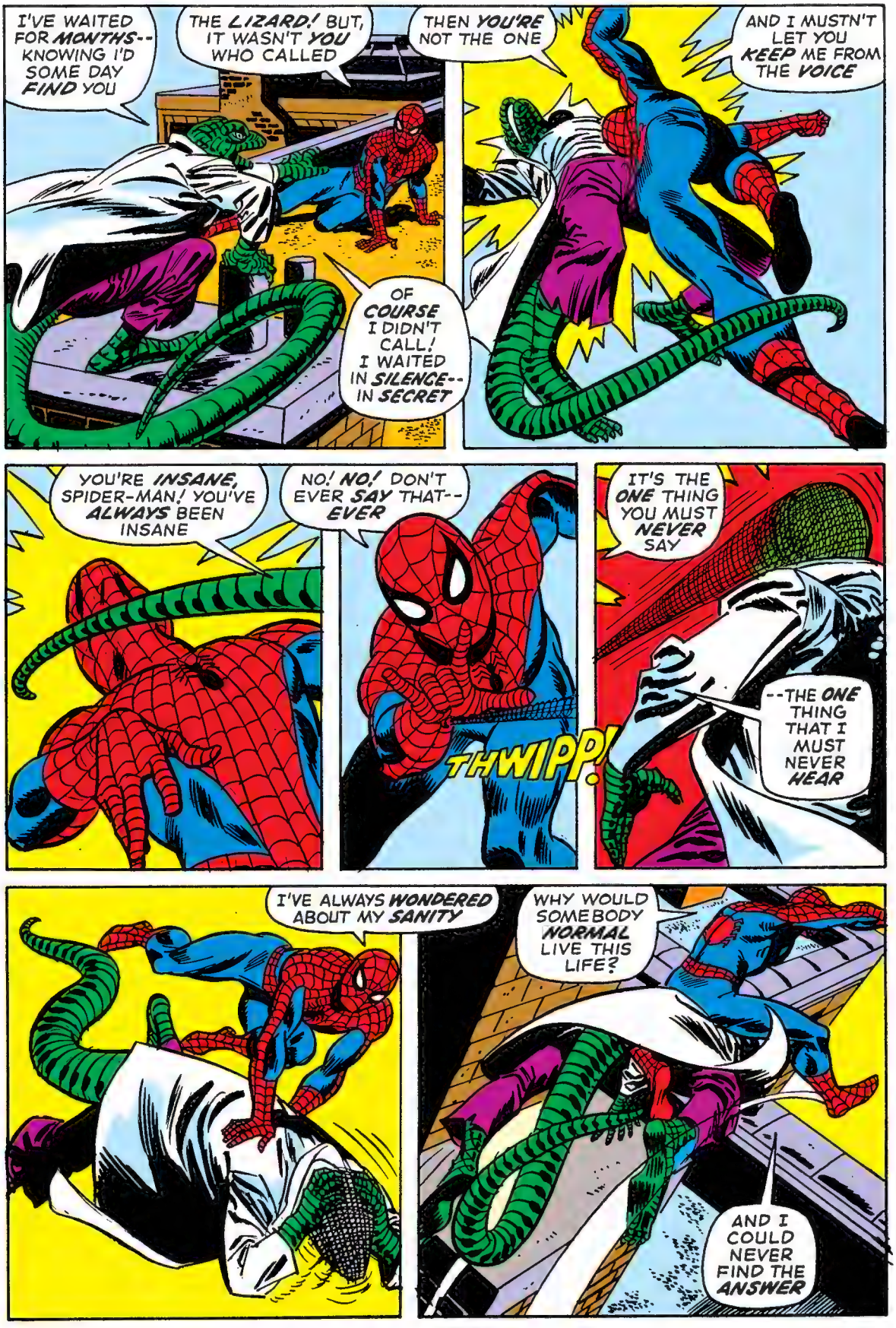
LIKE A MAD KALEIDOSCOPE, IMAGE FOLLOWS IMAGE AS PETER SEES HIS LONG-LOST BETTY BRANT--
IF NOT FOR BEING SPIDER-MAN, I'D HAVE WON HER--INSTEAD OF NED LEEDS

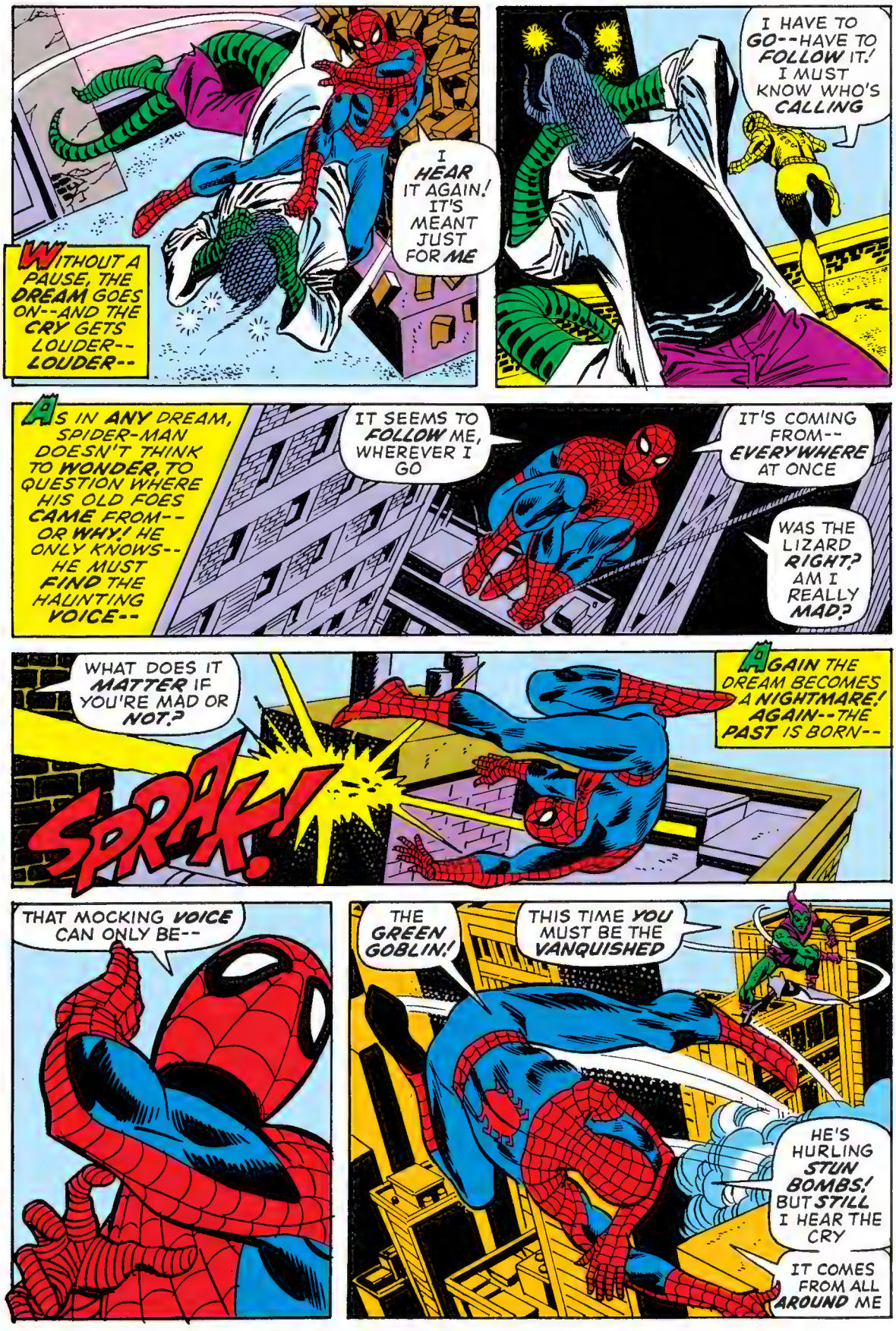

BUT NOW, IT'S GWEN I TRULY LOVE--

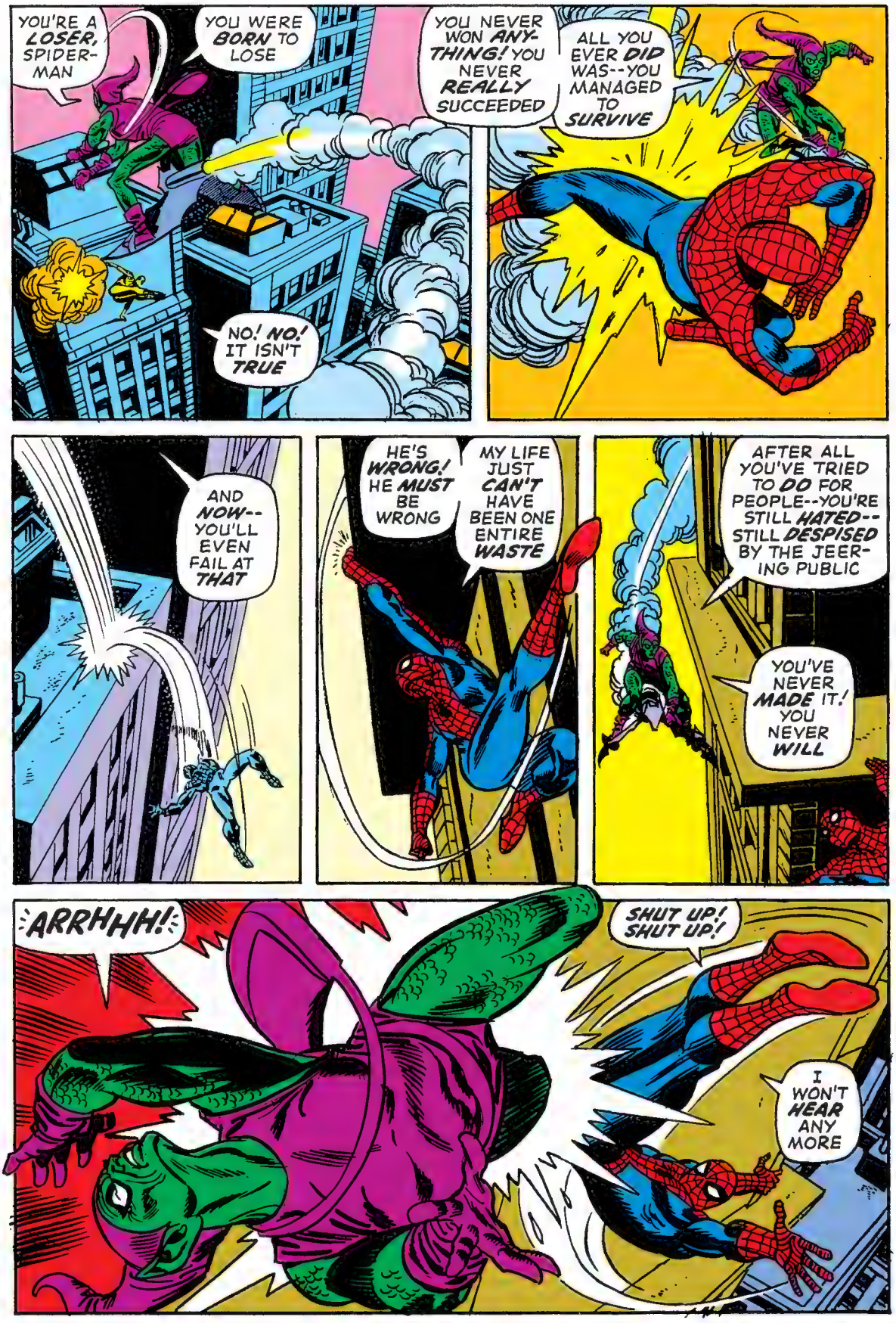

AND, WHEN HER FATHER DIED, I ALMOST LOST HER, TOO
WILL SHE ALWAYS BLAME ME--FOR CAPTAIN STACY'S DEATH?

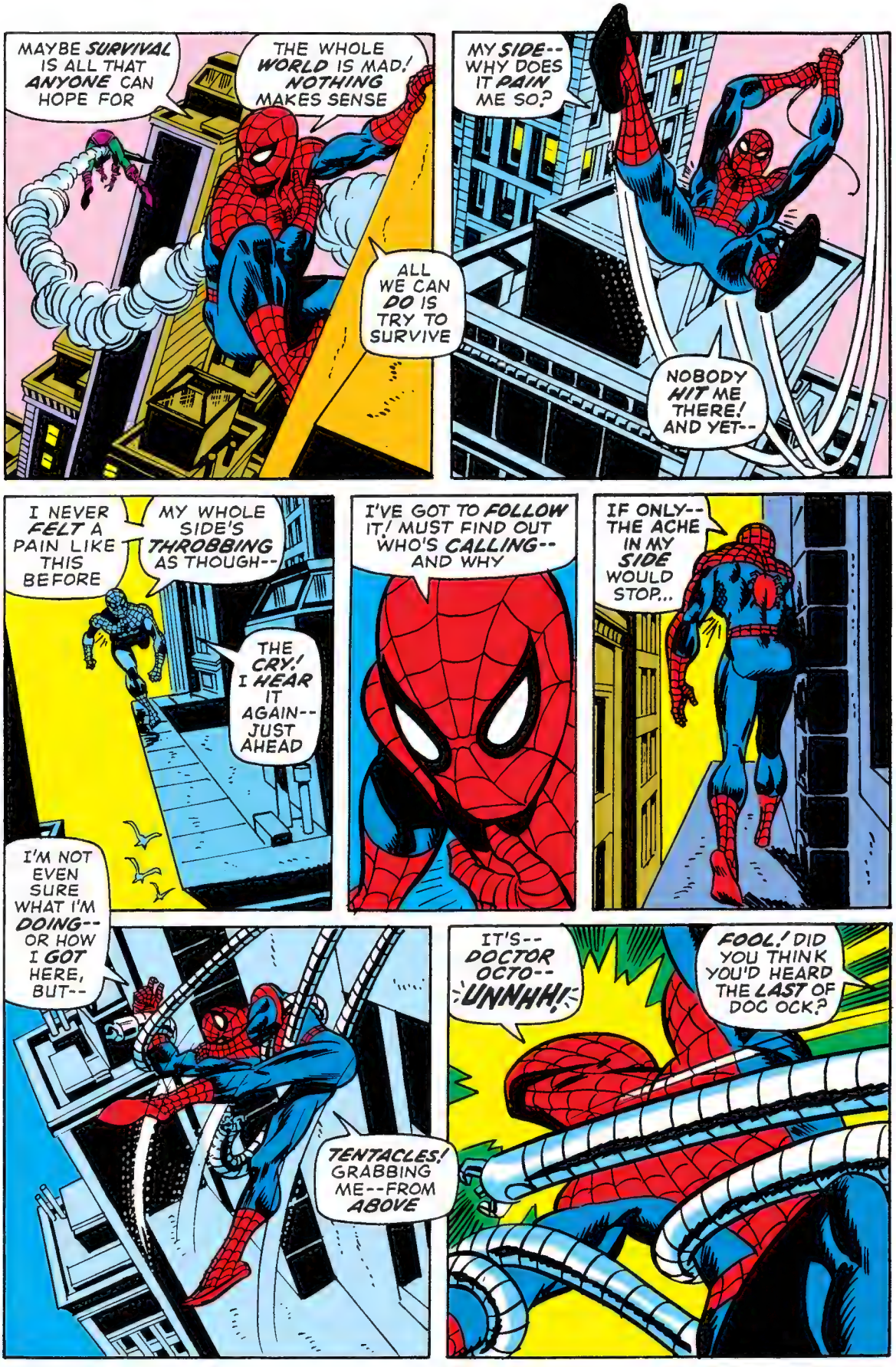

WHY MUST EVERYTHING I TOUCH END IN TRAGEDY?
AND THOSE I LOVE-- ARE ALWAYS HURT THE MOST
THEN, DEEP WITHIN THE HAUNTING DREAM, A PLAINTIVE CRY IS HEARD--
I HEAR A VOICE-- A CALL FOR HELP
IT'S A VOICE I'VE SOMEHOW HEARD BEFORE-- CALLING JUST TO ME
WITH EACH PASSING SECOND, THE DREAM GROWS STRONGER-- THE SENSE OF DANGER STILL MORE REAL--
I DARE NOT WAIT
THE VOICE IS FADING-- GROWING WEAKER
IT'S GONE! AND YET, I SEEM TO HEAR IT
MY EVERY SENSE CRIES-- DANGER
THOK!!
SPIDER-MAN! YOUR TIME HAS COME AT LAST
ON'T MOKE
THE VULTURE! BUT HIS WASN'T THE VOICE THAT CALLED TO ME
MUST REACH THE WALL! STILL TIME-- TO CATCH MYSELF

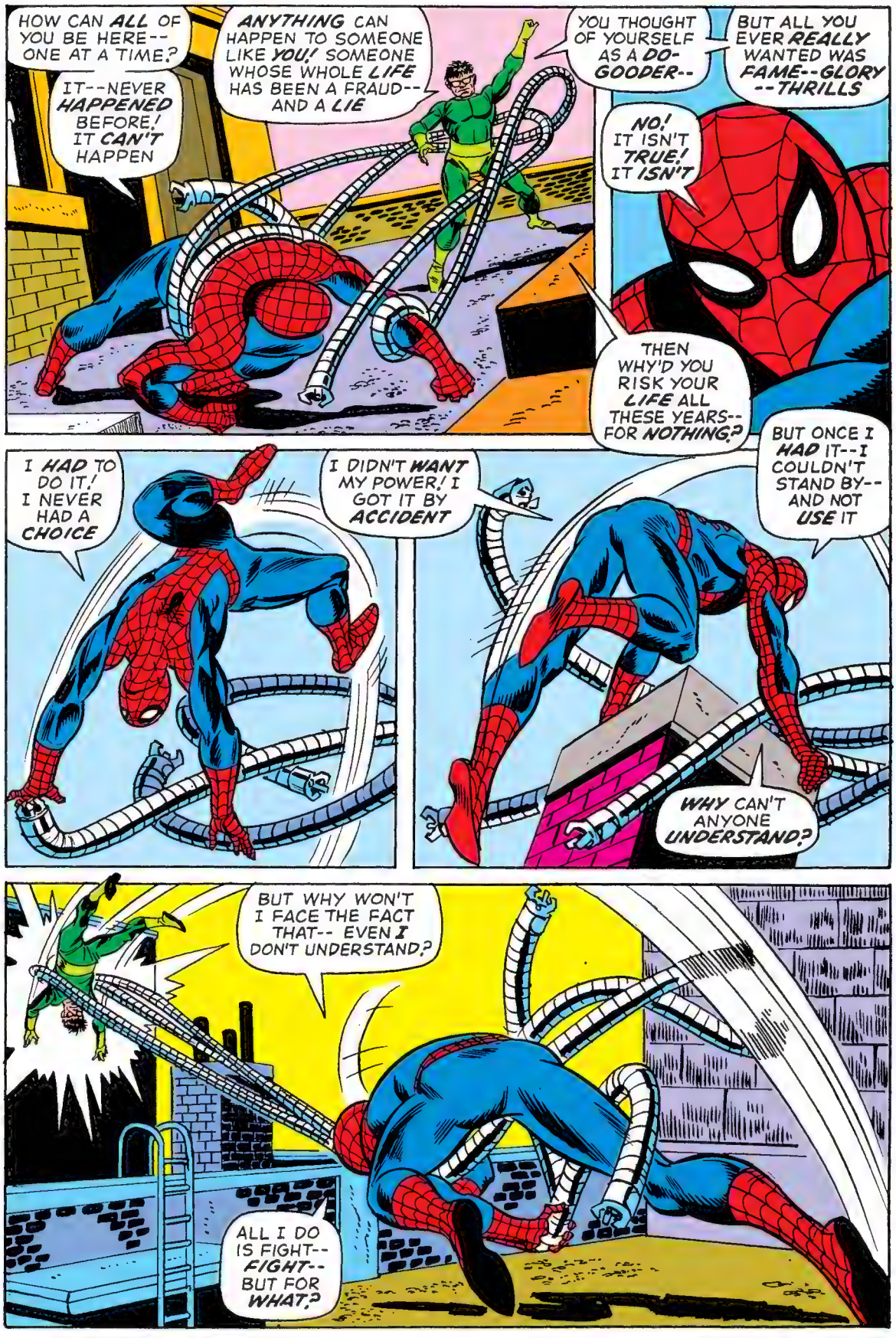

AND NOW, BEFORE THE VULTURE GETS AWAY--
THWIPP
GOT HIM!
NO! YOU'VE NO RIGHT TO DO THIS! YOU CAN'T
YOU MUSTN'T HARM ME! YOU ONLY HARM YOUR LOVED ONES
THEN-- EVEN YOU KNOW
BUT, YOU MUSTN'T TELL! YOU MUSTN'T
BTOK
NO MATTER HOW MAD A DREAM MAY BE--THE DREAMER QUESTIONS NOT-- HE JUST BELIEVES...
THE VULTURE IS FINISHED-- BUT, STILL I HEAR THE CRY
IT COMES FROM ALL AROUND ME-- PLEADING-- CALLING MY NAME--
ZPAKK!

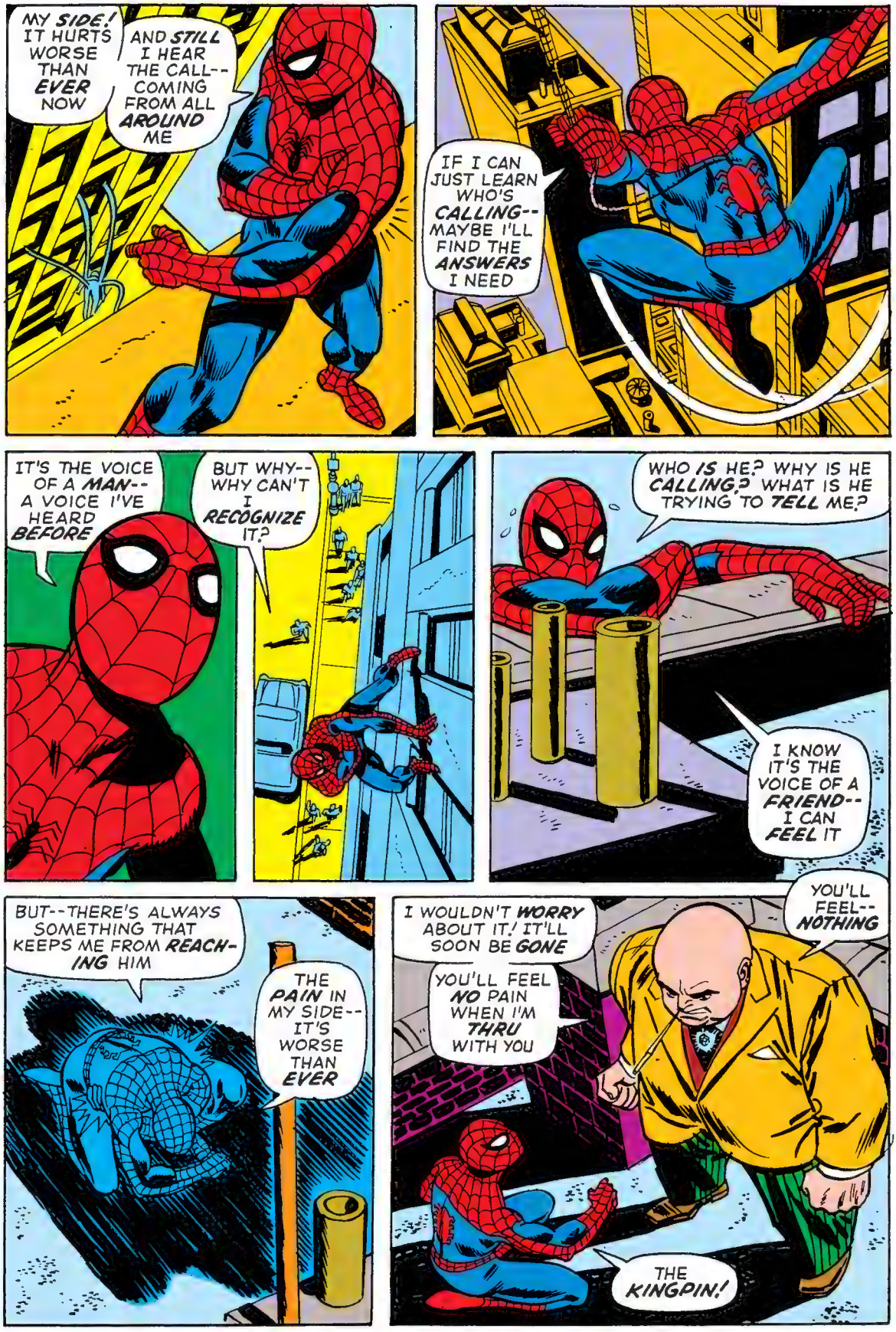

I'VE WAITED FOR MONTHS-- KNOWING I'D SOME DAY FIND YOU
THE LIZARD! BUT, IT WASN'T YOU WHO CALLED
THEN YOU'RE NOT THE ONE
AND I MUSTN'T LET YOU KEEP ME FROM THE VOICE
OF COURSE I DIDN'T CALL! I WAITED IN SILENCE-- IN SECRET
YOU'RE INSANE, SPIDER-MAN! YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN INSANE
NO! NO! DON'T EVER SAY THAT-- EVER
THWIPP!
IT'S THE ONE THING YOU MUST NEVER SAY
--THE ONE THING THAT I MUST NEVER HEAR
I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED ABOUT MY SANITY
WHY WOULD SOMEBODY NORMAL LIVE THIS LIFE?
AND I COULD NEVER FIND THE ANSWER

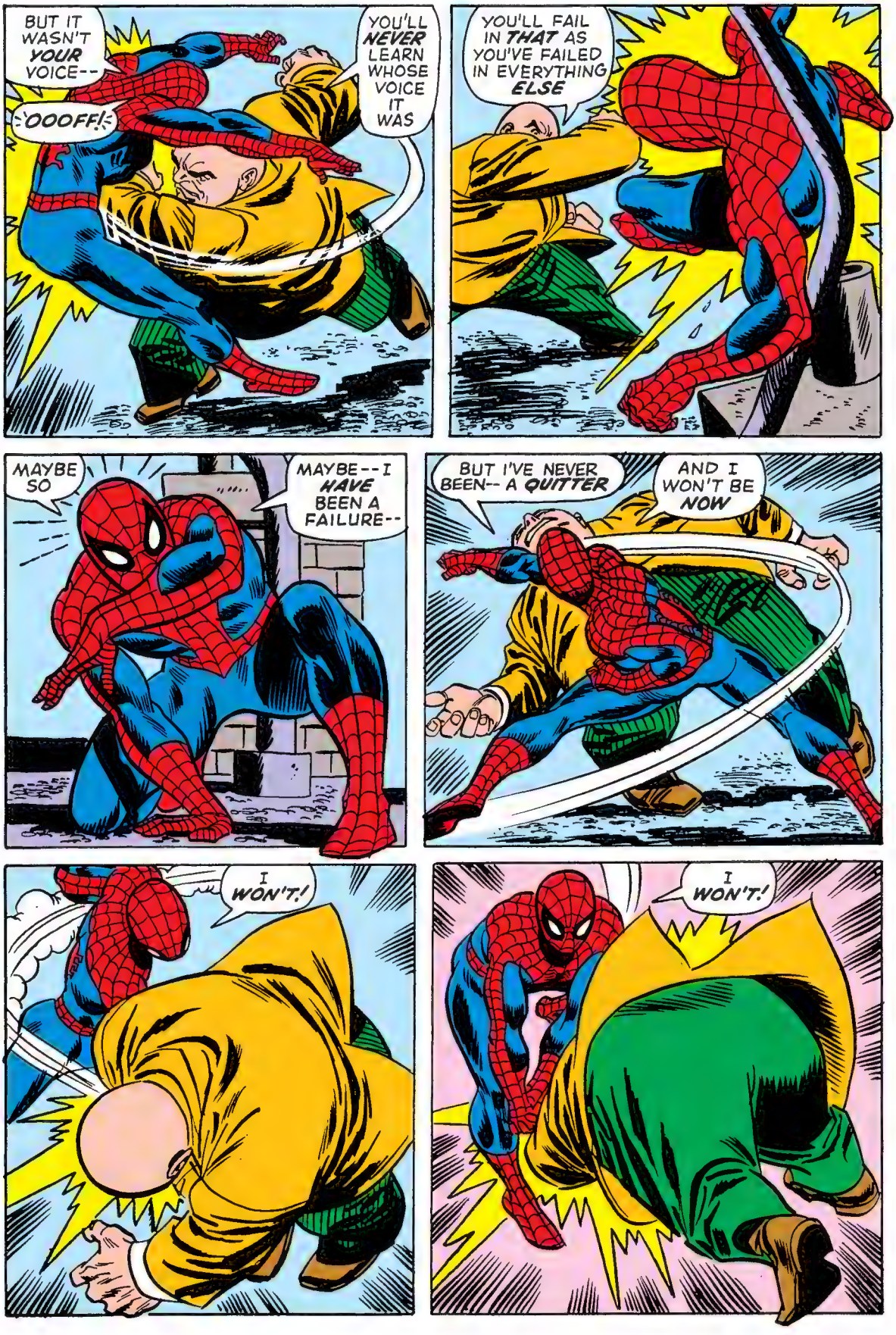

WITHOUT A PAUSE, THE DREAM GOES ON--AND THE CRY GETS LOUDER--LOUDER--
I HEAR IT AGAIN! IT'S MEANT JUST FOR ME
I HAVE TO GO--HAVE TO FOLLOW IT! I MUST KNOW WHO'S CALLING
AS IN ANY DREAM, SPIDER-MAN DOESN'T THINK TO WONDER, TO QUESTION WHERE HIS OLD FOES CAME FROM--OR WHY! HE ONLY KNOWS--HE MUST FIND THE HAUNTING VOICE--
IT SEEMS TO FOLLOW ME, WHEREVER I GO
IT'S COMING FROM--EVERYWHERE AT ONCE
WAS THE LIZARD RIGHT? AM I REALLY MAD?
WHAT DOES IT MATTER IF YOU'RE MAD OR NOT?
SPRAK!
AGAIN THE DREAM BECOMES A NIGHTMARE! AGAIN--THE PAST IS BORN--
THAT MOCKING VOICE CAN ONLY BE--
THE GREEN GOBLIN!
THIS TIME YOU MUST BE THE VANQUISHED
HE'S HURLING STUN BOMBS! BUT STILL I HEAR THE CRY
IT COMES FROM ALL AROUND ME

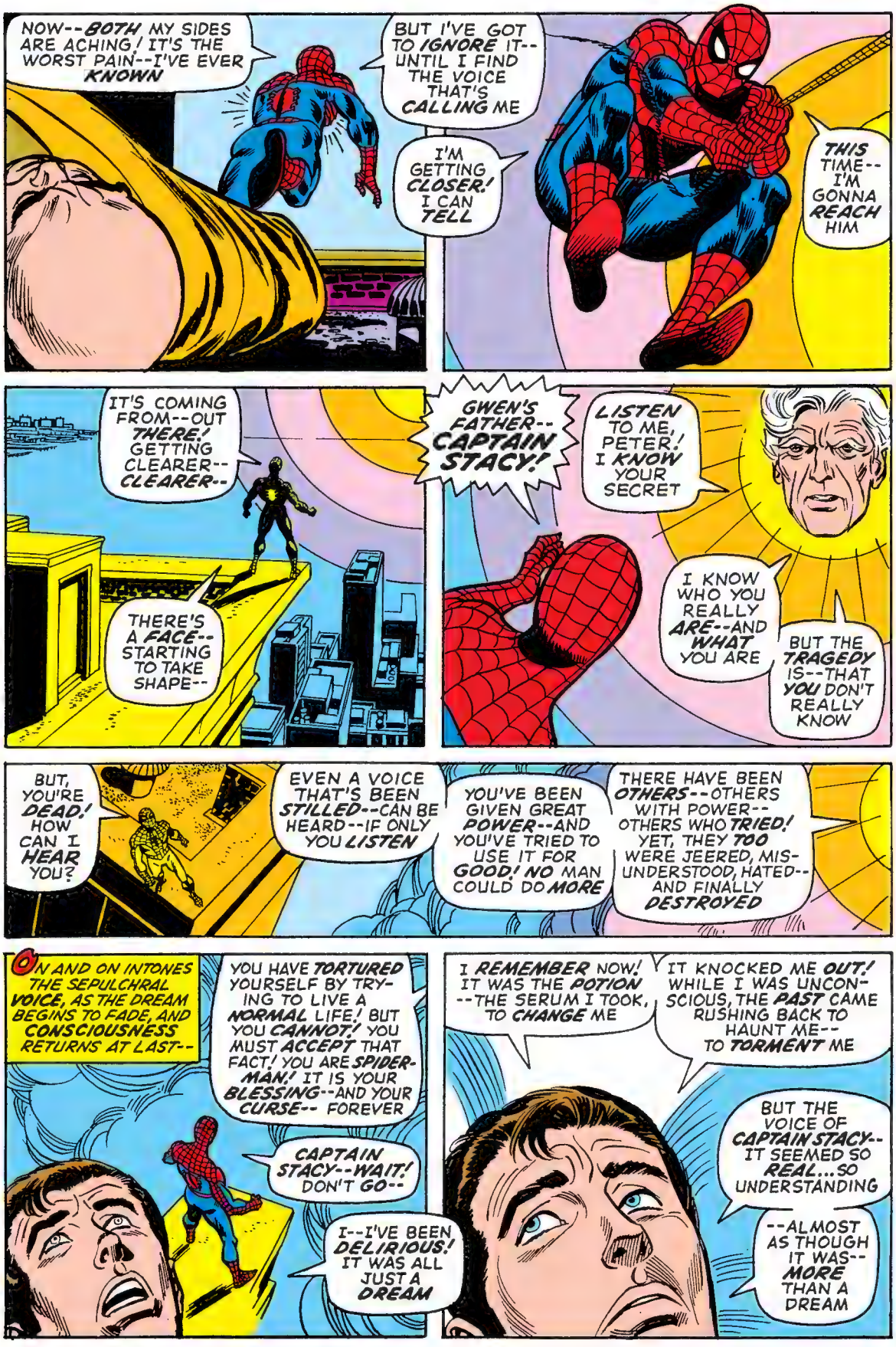

YOU'RE A LOSER, SPIDER-MAN
YOU WERE BORN TO LOSE
NO! NO! IT ISN'T TRUE
YOU NEVER WON ANY-THING! YOU NEVER REALLY SUCCEEDED
ALL YOU EVER DID WAS--YOU MANAGED TO SURVIVE
AND NOW-- YOU'LL EVEN FAIL AT THAT
HE'S WRONG! HE MUST BE WRONG
MY LIFE JUST CAN'T HAVE BEEN ONE ENTIRE WASTE
AFTER ALL YOU'VE TRIED TO DO FOR PEOPLE--YOU'RE STILL HATED-- STILL DESPISED BY THE JEER-ING PUBLIC
YOU'VE NEVER MADE IT! YOU NEVER WILL
ARRHHH!
SHUT UP! SHUT UP!
I WON'T HEAR ANY MORE

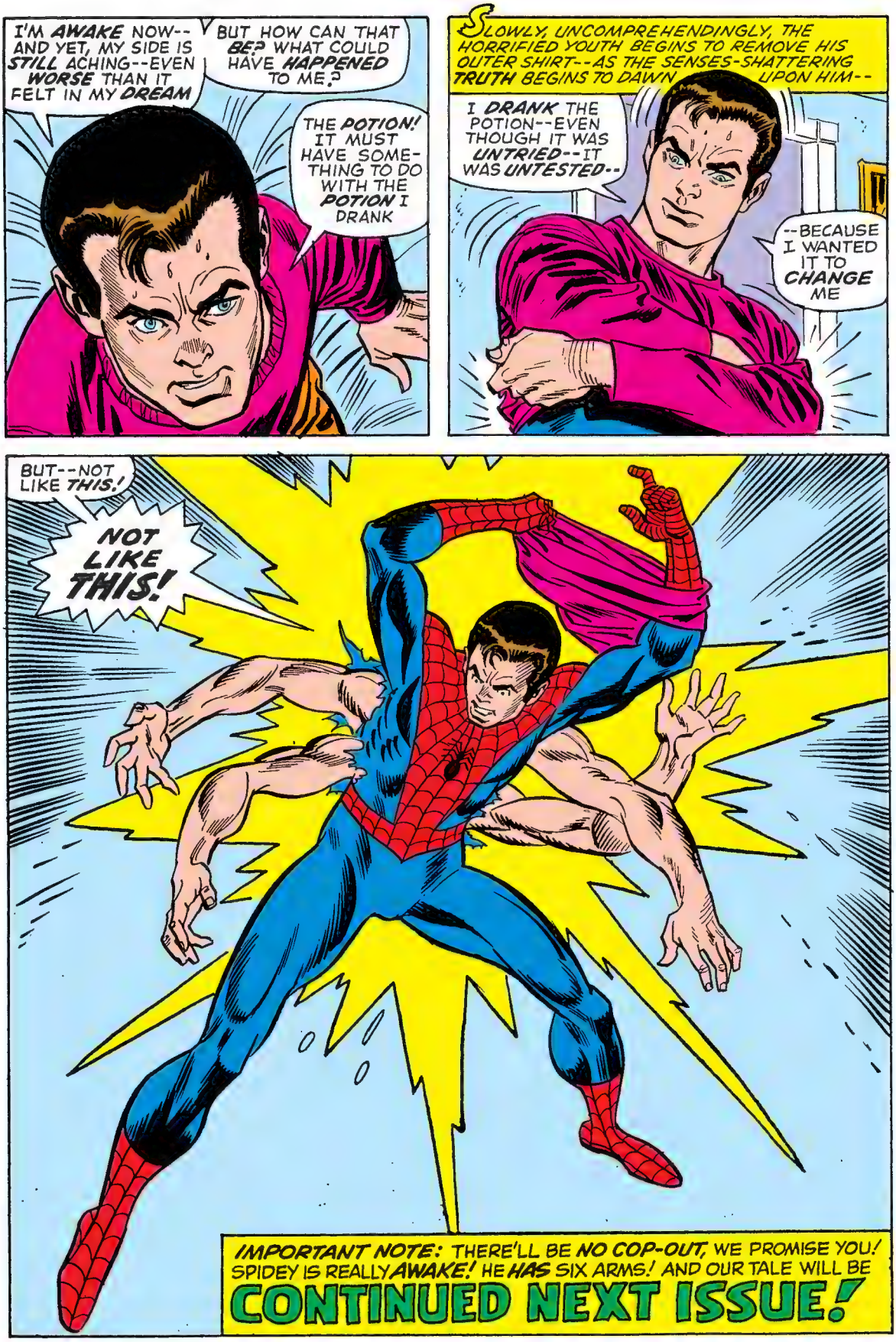

MAYBE SURVIVAL IS ALL THAT ANYONE CAN HOPE FOR
THE WHOLE WORLD IS MAD! NOTHING MAKES SENSE
ALL WE CAN DO IS TRY TO SURVIVE
MY SIDE-- WHY DOES IT PAIN ME SO?
NOBODY HIT ME THERE! AND YET--
I NEVER FELT A PAIN LIKE THIS BEFORE
MY WHOLE SIDE'S THROBBING AS THOUGH--
THE CRY! I HEAR IT AGAIN-- JUST AHEAD
I'M NOT EVEN SURE WHAT I'M DOING-- OR HOW I GOT HERE, BUT--
I'VE GOT TO FOLLOW IT! MUST FIND OUT WHO'S CALLING-- AND WHY
IF ONLY-- THE ACHE IN MY SIDE WOULD STOP...
TENTACLES! GRABBING ME--FROM ABOVE
IT'S-- DOCTOR OCTO-- UNNHH!
FOOL! DID YOU THINK YOU'D HEARD THE LAST OF DOC OCK?


HOW CAN ALL OF YOU BE HERE--ONE AT A TIME?
IT--NEVER HAPPENED BEFORE! IT CAN'T HAPPEN
ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN TO SOMEONE LIKE YOU! SOMEONE WHOSE WHOLE LIFE HAS BEEN A FRAUD--AND A LIE
YOU THOUGHT OF YOURSELF AS A DO-GOODER--
BUT ALL YOU EVER REALLY WANTED WAS FAME--GLORY --THRILLS
NO! IT ISN'T TRUE! IT ISN'T
THEN WHY'D YOU RISK YOUR LIFE ALL THESE YEARS--FOR NOTHING?
I HAD TO DO IT! I NEVER HAD A CHOICE
I DIDN'T WANT MY POWER! I GOT IT BY ACCIDENT
BUT ONCE I HAD IT--I COULDN'T STAND BY--AND NOT USE IT
WHY CAN'T ANYONE UNDERSTAND?
BUT WHY WON'T I FACE THE FACT THAT-- EVEN I DON'T UNDERSTAND?
ALL I DO IS FIGHT--FIGHT--BUT FOR WHAT?


MY SIDE! IT HURTS WORSE THAN EVER NOW
AND STILL I HEAR THE CALL-- COMING FROM ALL AROUND ME
IF I CAN JUST LEARN WHO'S CALLING-- MAYBE I'LL FIND THE ANSWERS I NEED
IT'S THE VOICE OF A MAN-- A VOICE I'VE HEARD BEFORE
BUT WHY-- WHY CAN'T I RECOGNIZE IT?
WHO IS HE? WHY IS HE CALLING? WHAT IS HE TRYING TO TELL ME?
I KNOW IT'S THE VOICE OF A FRIEND-- I CAN FEEL IT
BUT--THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING THAT KEEPS ME FROM REACHING HIM
THE PAIN IN MY SIDE-- IT'S WORSE THAN EVER
I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT, IT'LL SOON BE GONE
YOU'LL FEEL NO PAIN WHEN I'M THRU WITH YOU
YOU'LL FEEL-- NOTHING
THE KINGPIN!


BUT IT WASN'T YOUR VOICE--
OOOFF!
YOU'LL NEVER LEARN WHOSE VOICE IT WAS
YOU'LL FAIL IN THAT AS YOU'VE FAILED IN EVERYTHING ELSE
MAYBE SO
MAYBE--I HAVE BEEN A FAILURE--
BUT I'VE NEVER BEEN-- A QUITTER
AND I WON'T BE NOW
I WON'T!
I WON'T!


NOW--BOTH MY SIDES ARE ACHING! IT'S THE WORST PAIN--I'VE EVER KNOWN
BUT I'VE GOT TO IGNORE IT--UNTIL I FIND THE VOICE THAT'S CALLING ME
I'M GETTING CLOSER! I CAN TELL
THIS TIME--I'M GONNA REACH HIM
IT'S COMING FROM--OUT THERE! GETTING CLEARER--CLEARER--
THERE'S A FACE--STARTING TO TAKE SHAPE--
GWEN'S FATHER--CAPTAIN STACY!
LISTEN TO ME, PETER! I KNOW YOUR SECRET
I KNOW WHO YOU REALLY ARE--AND WHAT YOU ARE
BUT THE TRAGEDY IS--THAT YOU DON'T REALLY KNOW
BUT, YOU'RE DEAD! HOW CAN I HEAR YOU?
EVEN A VOICE THAT'S BEEN STILLED--CAN BE HEARD--IF ONLY YOU LISTEN
YOU'VE BEEN GIVEN GREAT POWER--AND YOU'VE TRIED TO USE IT FOR GOOD! NO MAN COULD DO MORE
THERE HAVE BEEN OTHERS--OTHERS WITH POWER--OTHERS WHO TRIED! YET, THEY TOO WERE JEERED, MISUNDERSTOOD, HATED--AND FINALLY DESTROYED
ON AND ON INTONES THE SEPULCHRAL VOICE, AS THE DREAM BEGINS TO FADE, AND CONSCIOUSNESS RETURNS AT LAST--
YOU HAVE TORTURED YOURSELF BY TRYING TO LIVE A NORMAL LIFE! BUT YOU CANNOT! YOU MUST ACCEPT THAT FACT! YOU ARE SPIDER-MAN! IT IS YOUR BLESSING--AND YOUR CURSE-- FOREVER
CAPTAIN STACY--WAIT! DON'T GO--
I--I'VE BEEN DELIRIOUS! IT WAS ALL JUST A DREAM
I REMEMBER NOW! IT WAS THE POTION--THE SERUM I TOOK, TO CHANGE ME
IT KNOCKED ME OUT! WHILE I WAS UNCONSCIOUS, THE PAST CAME RUSHING BACK TO HAUNT ME--TO TORMENT ME
BUT THE VOICE OF CAPTAIN STACY--IT SEEMED SO REAL...SO UNDERSTANDING
--ALMOST AS THOUGH IT WAS--MORE THAN A DREAM


I'M AWAKE NOW--AND YET, MY SIDE IS STILL ACHING--EVEN WORSE THAN IT FELT IN MY DREAM
BUT HOW CAN THAT BE? WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO ME?
THE POTION! IT MUST HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE POTION I DRANK
SLOWLY, UNCOMPREHENDINGLY, THE HORRIFIED YOUTH BEGINS TO REMOVE HIS OUTER SHIRT--AS THE SENSES-SHATTERING TRUTH BEGINS TO DAWN UPON HIM--
I DRANK THE POTION--EVEN THOUGH IT WAS UNTRIED--IT WAS UNTESTED--
--BECAUSE I WANTED IT TO CHANGE ME
BUT--NOT LIKE THIS!
NOT LIKE THIS!
IMPORTANT NOTE: THERE'LL BE NO COP-OUT, WE PROMISE YOU! SPIDEY IS REALLY AWAKE! HE HAS SIX ARMS! AND OUR TALE WILL BE
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE!

SPIDER-MAN
STILL 15¢
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
FOOL! IT WILL TAKE MORE THAN A FREAK WITH SIX ARMS TO STOP-- A VAMPIRE!
MARVEL COMICS GROUP™
A MONSTER CALLED... MORBIUS!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
A MONSTER CALLED...
MORBIUS!
YEP, THAT'S OUR TITLE--AND WE'LL GET AROUND TO JUSTIFYING IT IN A PAGE OR THREE!
BUT, JUST NOW, OUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD WALL-CRAWLER IS FEELING PRETTY MONSTERISH HIMSELF, AS--
GOOD LORD! I CREATED THAT POTION TO ROB ME OF MY SPIDER-POWERS--
--AND I DRANK IT--EVEN THOUGH IT WAS UNTRIED--UNTESTED--
--BECAUSE I WANTED IT TO CHANGE ME FOREVER.
BUT--NOT LIKE THIS!
NOT LIKE THIS!
THE PLAY'S THE THING--SO WHAT SAY WE GET OUR CAPRICIOUS CREDITS OUT OF THE WAY FAST?*
STAN LEE * ROY THOMAS * GIL KANE
EDITOR EMERITUS STAND-IN SCRIPTOR ARTIST-AS-USUAL
FRANK GIACOIA INKER * ARTIE SIMEK LETTERER
(*ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN FURTHER DETAILS MAY APPLY TO THE BULLPEN BULLETINS PAGE, ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISH. US? WE'VE GOT A STORY TO TELL--!)
637

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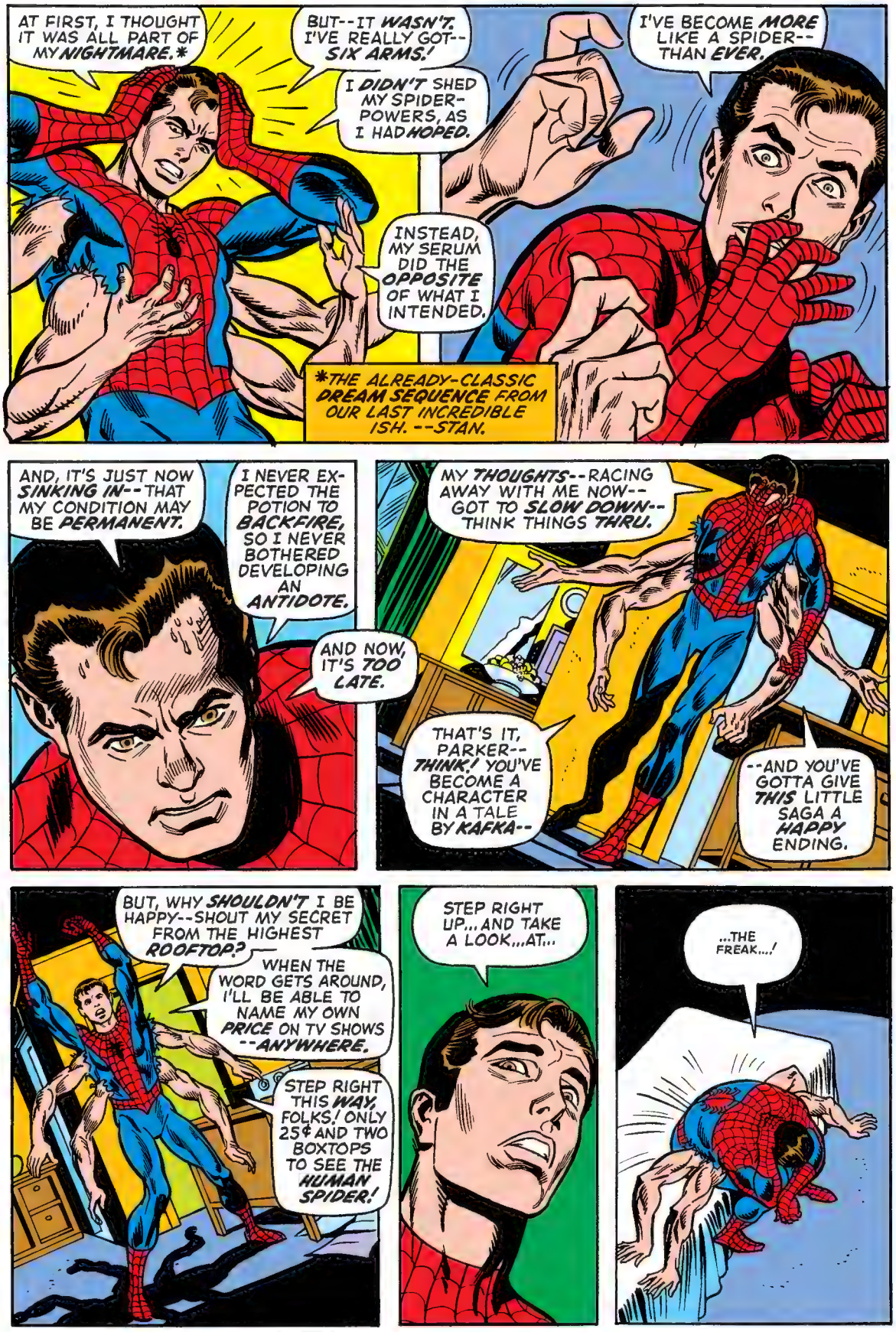
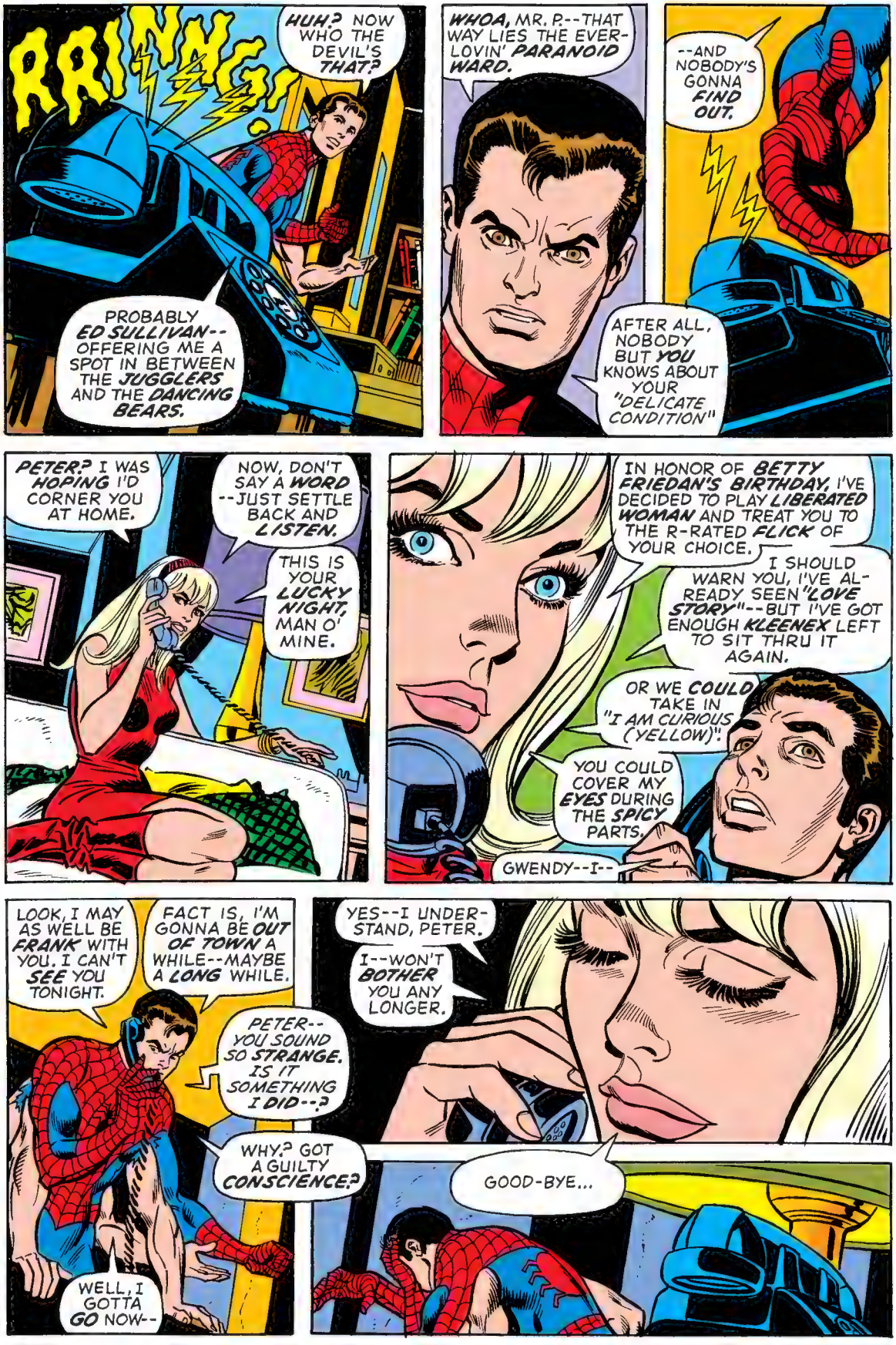
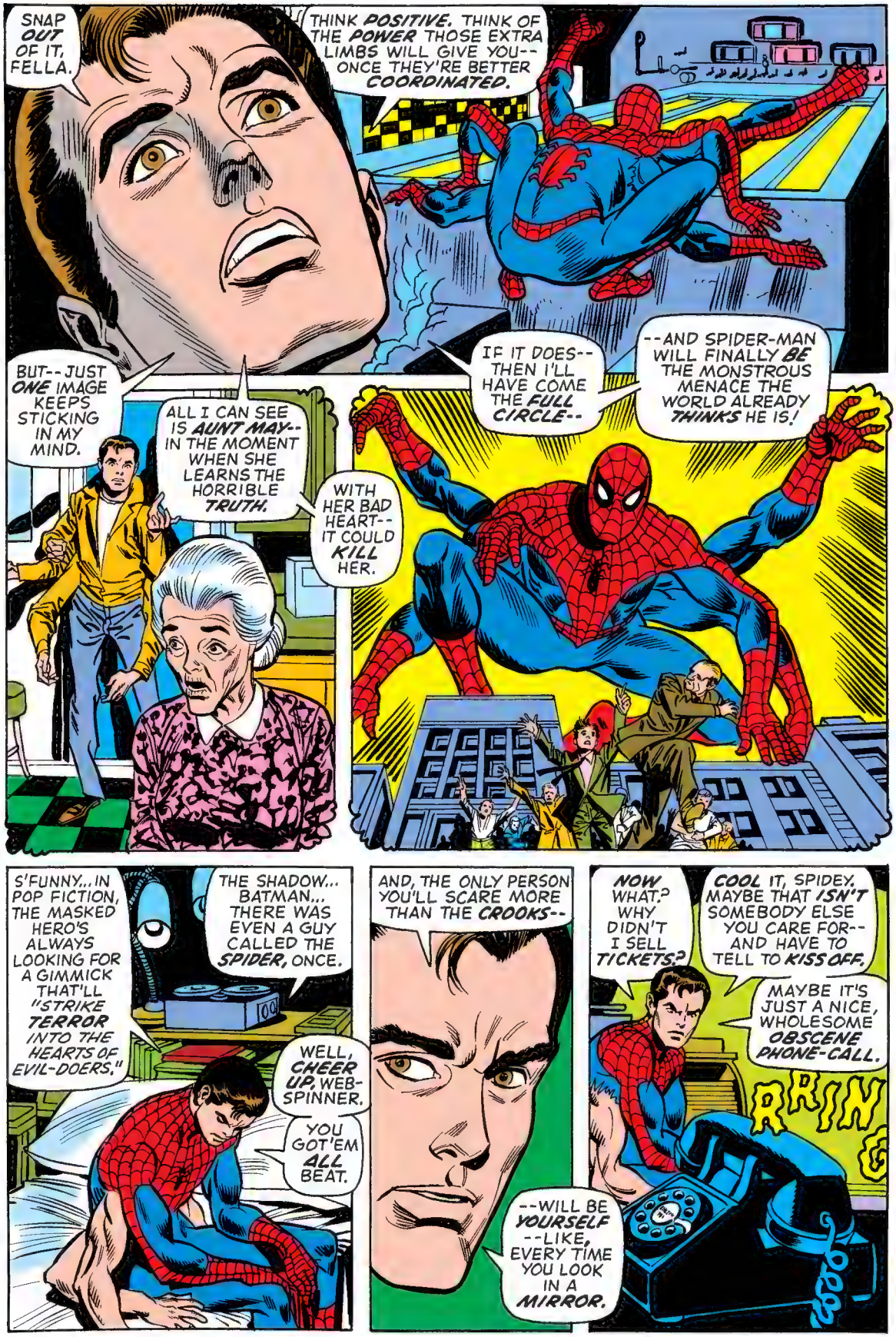
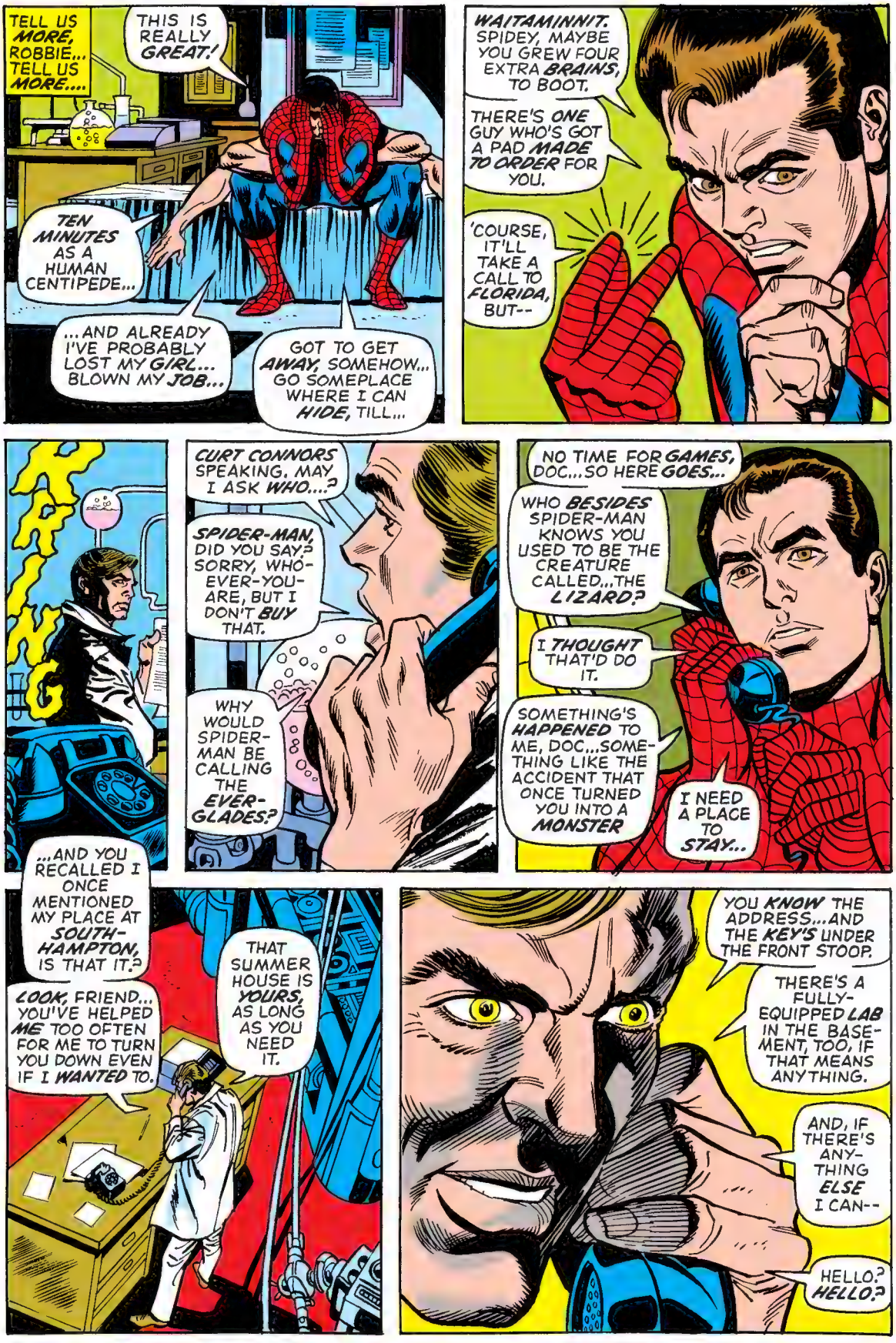
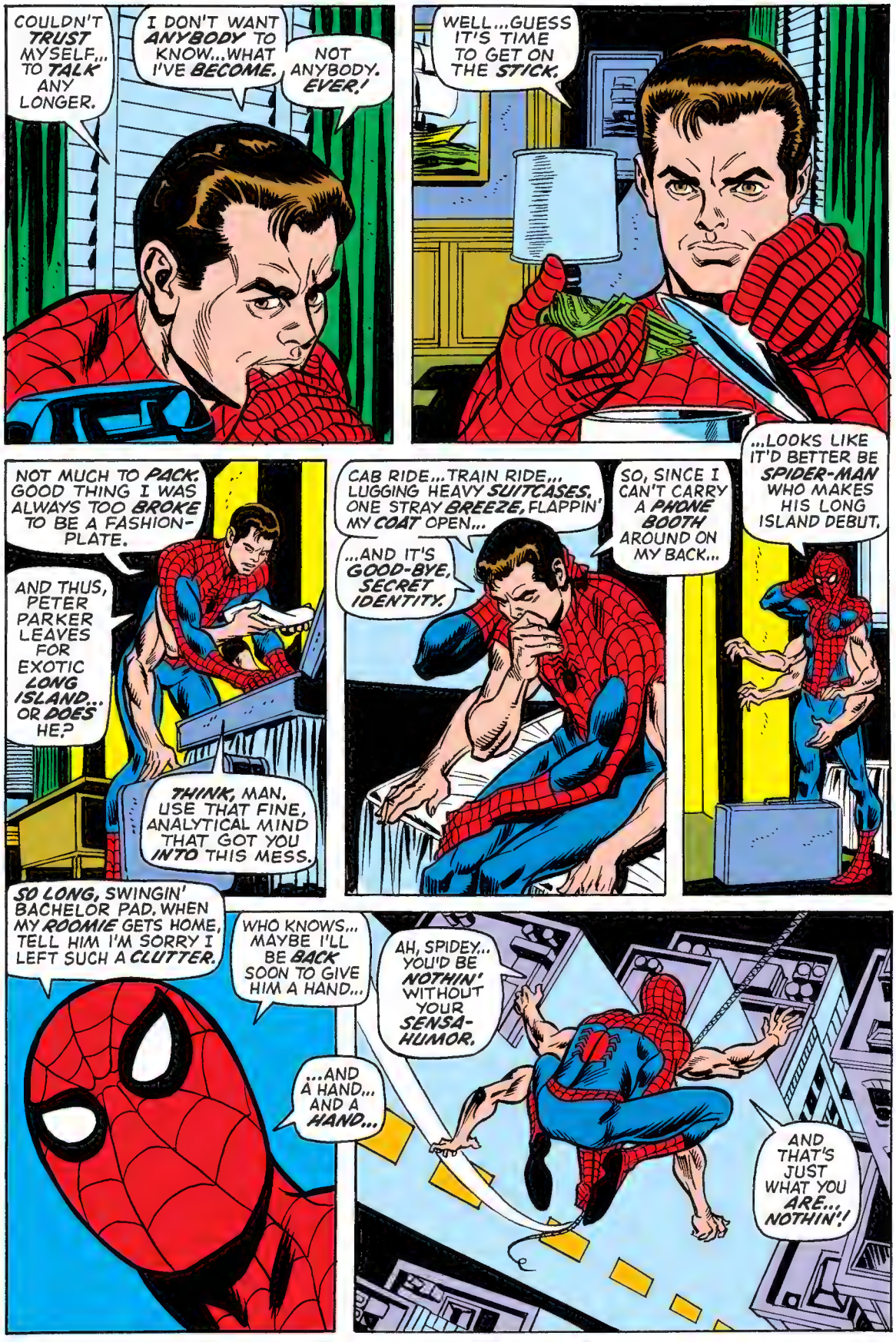

AT FIRST, I THOUGHT IT WAS ALL PART OF MY NIGHTMARE.*
BUT--IT WASN'T. I'VE REALLY GOT-- SIX ARMS!
I DIDN'T SHED MY SPIDER-POWERS, AS I HAD HOPED.
INSTEAD, MY SERUM DID THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT I INTENDED.
I'VE BECOME MORE LIKE A SPIDER-- THAN EVER.
*THE ALREADY-CLASSIC DREAM SEQUENCE FROM OUR LAST INCREDIBLE ISH. --STAN.
AND, IT'S JUST NOW SINKING IN--THAT MY CONDITION MAY BE PERMANENT.
I NEVER EXPECTED THE POTION TO BACKFIRE, SO I NEVER BOTHERED DEVELOPING AN ANTIDOTE.
AND NOW, IT'S TOO LATE.
MY THOUGHTS--RACING AWAY WITH ME NOW-- GOT TO SLOW DOWN-- THINK THINGS THRU.
THAT'S IT, PARKER-- THINK! YOU'VE BECOME A CHARACTER IN A TALE BY KAFKA--
--AND YOU'VE GOTTA GIVE THIS LITTLE SAGA A HAPPY ENDING.
BUT, WHY SHOULDN'T I BE HAPPY--SHOUT MY SECRET FROM THE HIGHEST ROOFTOP?
WHEN THE WORD GETS AROUND, I'LL BE ABLE TO NAME MY OWN PRICE ON TV SHOWS --ANYWHERE.
STEP RIGHT THIS WAY, FOLKS! ONLY 25¢ AND TWO BOXTOPS TO SEE THE HUMAN SPIDER!
STEP RIGHT UP... AND TAKE A LOOK...AT...
...THE FREAK...!

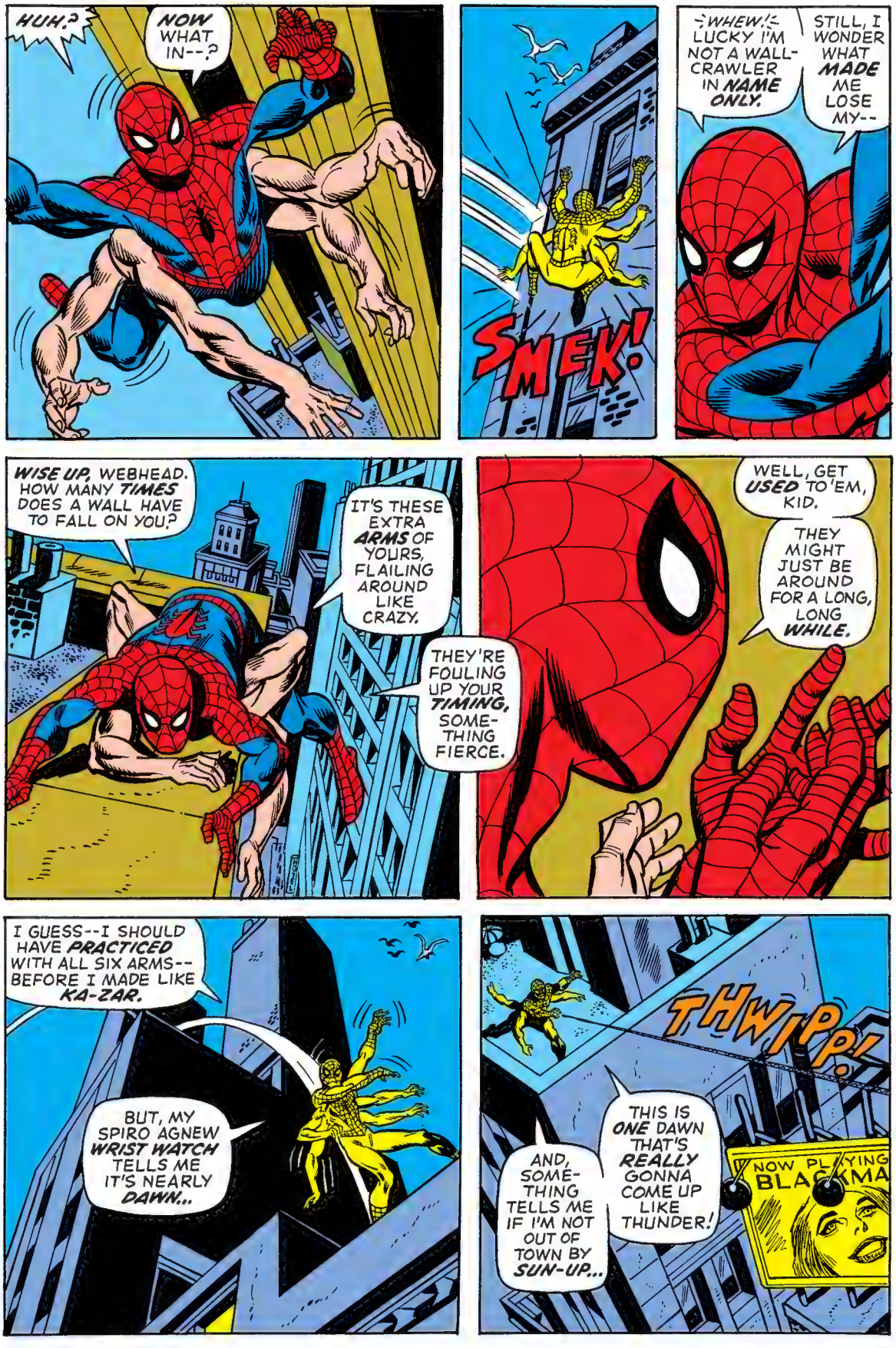

RRINNG!
HUH? NOW WHO THE DEVIL'S THAT?
PROBABLY ED SULLIVAN--OFFERING ME A SPOT IN BETWEEN THE JUGGLERS AND THE DANCING BEARS.
WHOA, MR. P.--THAT WAY LIES THE EVER-LOVIN' PARANOID WARD.
AFTER ALL, NOBODY BUT YOU KNOWS ABOUT YOUR "DELICATE CONDITION"
--AND NOBODY'S GONNA FIND OUT.
PETER? I WAS HOPING I'D CORNER YOU AT HOME.
NOW, DON'T SAY A WORD --JUST SETTLE BACK AND LISTEN.
THIS IS YOUR LUCKY NIGHT, MAN O' MINE.
IN HONOR OF BETTY FRIEDAN'S BIRTHDAY, I'VE DECIDED TO PLAY LIBERATED WOMAN AND TREAT YOU TO THE R-RATED FLICK OF YOUR CHOICE.
I SHOULD WARN YOU, I'VE ALREADY SEEN "LOVE STORY"--BUT I'VE GOT ENOUGH KLEENEX LEFT TO SIT THRU IT AGAIN.
OR WE COULD TAKE IN "I AM CURIOUS (YELLOW)".
YOU COULD COVER MY EYES DURING THE SPICY PARTS.
GWENDY--I--
LOOK, I MAY AS WELL BE FRANK WITH YOU. I CAN'T SEE YOU TONIGHT.
FACT IS, I'M GONNA BE OUT OF TOWN A WHILE--MAYBE A LONG WHILE.
PETER--YOU SOUND SO STRANGE. IS IT SOMETHING I DID--?
WHY? GOT A GUILTY CONSCIENCE?
WELL, I GOTTA GO NOW--
YES--I UNDERSTAND, PETER.
I--WON'T BOTHER YOU ANY LONGER.
GOOD-BYE...

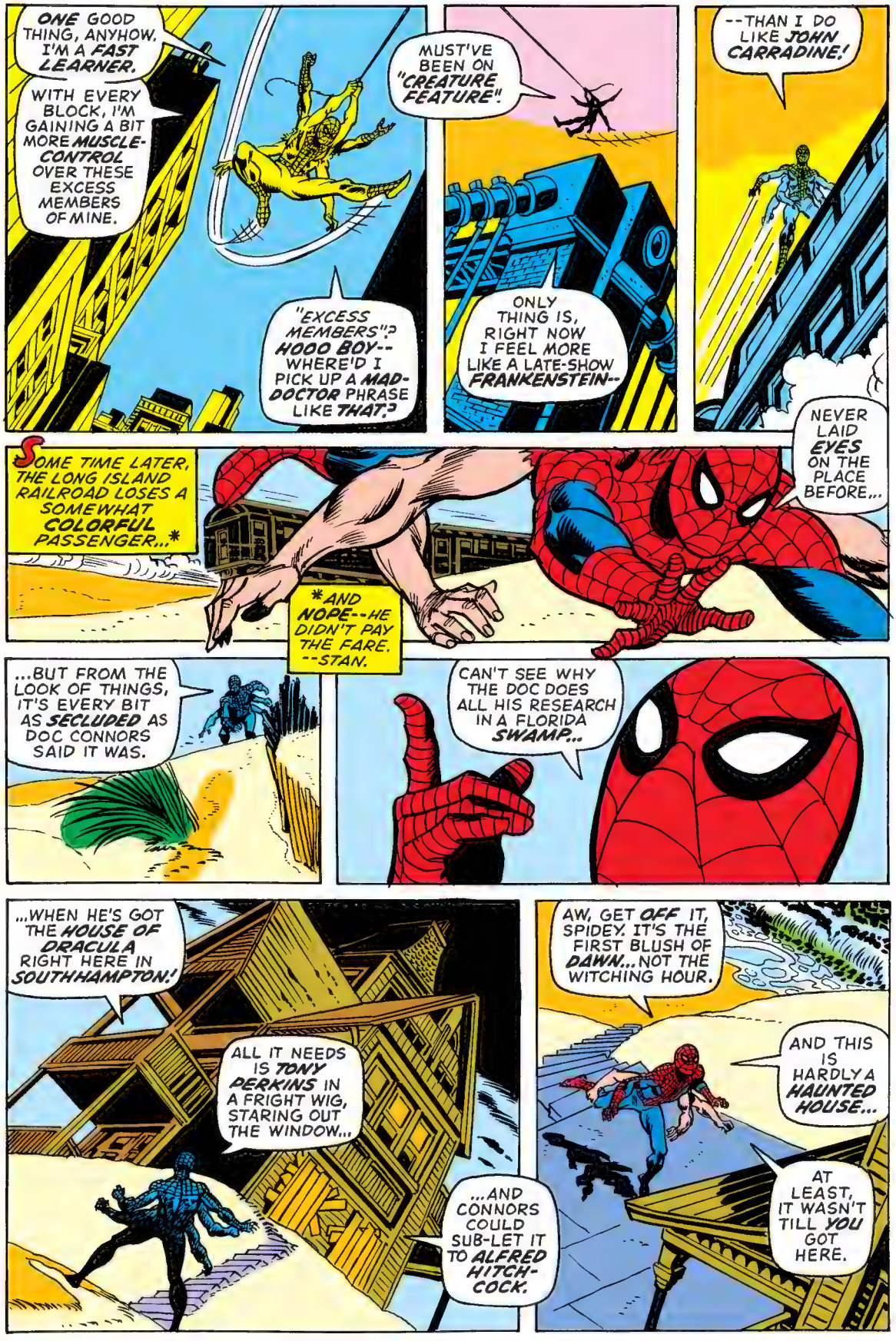

SNAP OUT OF IT, FELLA.
THINK POSITIVE. THINK OF THE POWER THOSE EXTRA LIMBS WILL GIVE YOU-- ONCE THEY'RE BETTER COORDINATED.
BUT-- JUST ONE IMAGE KEEPS STICKING IN MY MIND.
ALL I CAN SEE IS AUNT MAY-- IN THE MOMENT WHEN SHE LEARNS THE HORRIBLE TRUTH.
WITH HER BAD HEART-- IT COULD KILL HER.
IF IT DOES-- THEN I'LL HAVE COME THE FULL CIRCLE--
--AND SPIDER-MAN WILL FINALLY BE THE MONSTROUS MENACE THE WORLD ALREADY THINKS HE IS!
S'FUNNY... IN POP FICTION, THE MASKED HERO'S ALWAYS LOOKING FOR A GIMMICK THAT'LL "STRIKE TERROR INTO THE HEARTS OF EVIL-DOERS."
THE SHADOW... BATMAN... THERE WAS EVEN A GUY CALLED THE SPIDER, ONCE.
WELL, CHEER UP, WEB-SPINNER.
YOU GOT'EM ALL BEAT.
AND, THE ONLY PERSON YOU'LL SCARE MORE THAN THE CROOKS--
--WILL BE YOURSELF --LIKE, EVERY TIME YOU LOOK IN A MIRROR.
NOW WHAT? WHY DIDN'T I SELL TICKETS?
COOL IT, SPIDEY. MAYBE THAT ISN'T SOMEBODY ELSE YOU CARE FOR-- AND HAVE TO TELL TO KISS OFF.
MAYBE IT'S JUST A NICE, WHOLESOME OBSCENE PHONE-CALL.
RRIN
RRIN

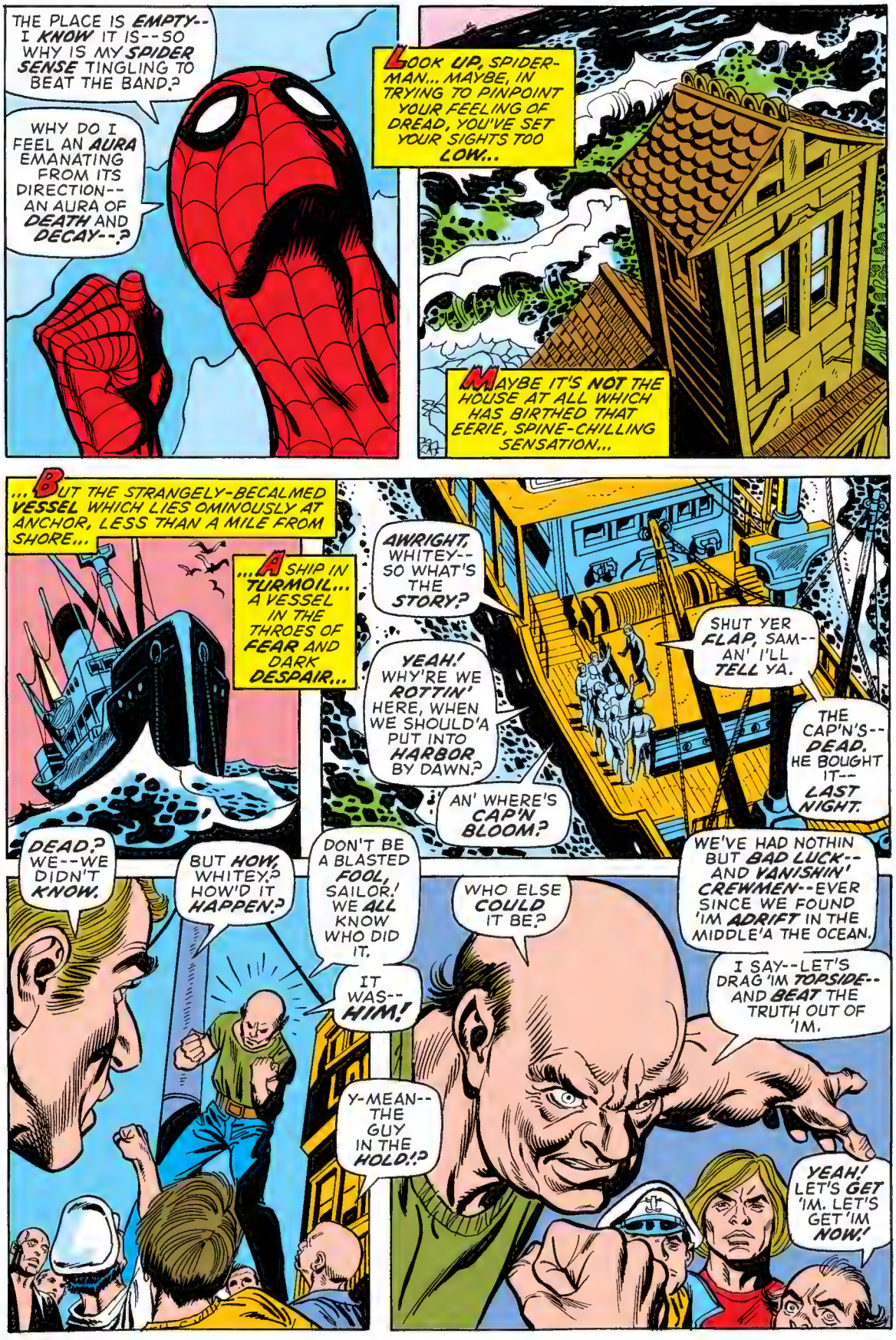
SURE, AN' THIS IS THE VICE SQUAD--'TIS SGT. O'MALLEY YER SPEAKIN' TO.
OH...H'LO, MR. ROBERTSON.
HURRY UP AND ASK HIM ALREADY, ROBBIE. WE'VE GOT OTHER THINGS TO TEND TO AROUND HERE, Y'KNOW.
EASY, JONAH. YOU ACT LIKE THIS WAS A TOLL CALL.
PETE! GOT A LITTLE ASSIGN-MENT I THOUGHT MIGHT INTEREST YOU.
--IF YOU'RE STILL OUR PART-TIME STAFF PHOTOG, THAT IS.
YEAH, I KNOW. I'M NEXT YEAR'S DAVID FRYE.
THANKS, BY THE WAY, I'M SKIPPING TOWN FOR A WHILE--HEAD-ING OFF A CASE OF MONO.
JUST GOT A TIP ON A FOILED BANK STICK-UP, AND WE NEED SOME PICS.
ALL OUR REGULARS ARE STUCK AT A COUPLE OF FOUR-ALARMERS, AND--
SURE, SON--I UNDERSTAND. IT IS THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, AFTER ALL.
I'LL REPORT IN, SOON AS I GET BACK.
WELL, MAN? IS PARKER ON HIS WAY?
HE IS, JONAH.
ON HIS WAY TO THE COUNTRY--FOR A REST CURE, HE SAID.
HE SOUNDED SINCERE--BUT I HAD THE FEELING HE'S GOT TROUBLES.
HE'S GOT TROUBLES!?
STOP WORRYING ABOUT THAT PUNK KID ON MY TIME!
PETE'S ALWAYS SEEMED A LAD WHO CAN TAKE CARE OF HIM-SELF.
BUT, IN A WORLD LIKE TODAY'S--ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN!
WE'LL GET 'EM, JJ...DON'T SWEAT IT.
I'LL PULL JOHNSON OFF THE FIRE.
WHEN I'LL BE A LAUGHING-STOCK IF THE BUGLE DOESN'T GET THOSE HOLD-UP SHOTS?
IT'S PETER PARKER WHO WORRIES ME.


TELL US MORE, ROBBIE... TELL US MORE....
THIS IS REALLY GREAT!
TEN MINUTES AS A HUMAN CENTIPEDE...
...AND ALREADY I'VE PROBABLY LOST MY GIRL... BLOWN MY JOB...
GOT TO GET AWAY, SOMEHOW... GO SOMEPLACE WHERE I CAN HIDE, TILL...
WAITAMINNIT. SPIDEY, MAYBE YOU GREW FOUR EXTRA BRAINS, TO BOOT.
THERE'S ONE GUY WHO'S GOT A PAD MADE TO ORDER FOR YOU.
'COURSE, IT'LL TAKE A CALL TO FLORIDA, BUT--
KA-NG
CURT CONNORS SPEAKING. MAY I ASK WHO....?
SPIDER-MAN, DID YOU SAY? SORRY, WHO-EVER-YOU-ARE, BUT I DON'T BUY THAT.
WHY WOULD SPIDER-MAN BE CALLING THE EVER-GLADES?
NO TIME FOR GAMES, DOC...SO HERE GOES...
WHO BESIDES SPIDER-MAN KNOWS YOU USED TO BE THE CREATURE CALLED..THE LIZARD?
I THOUGHT THAT'D DO IT.
SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO ME, DOC...SOME-THING LIKE THE ACCIDENT THAT ONCE TURNED YOU INTO A MONSTER
I NEED A PLACE TO STAY...
...AND YOU RECALLED I ONCE MENTIONED MY PLACE AT SOUTH-HAMPTON, IS THAT IT?
LOOK, FRIEND... YOU'VE HELPED ME TOO OFTEN FOR ME TO TURN YOU DOWN EVEN IF I WANTED TO.
THAT SUMMER HOUSE IS YOURS, AS LONG AS YOU NEED IT.
YOU KNOW THE ADDRESS...AND THE KEY'S UNDER THE FRONT STOOP.
THERE'S A FULLY-EQUIPPED LAB IN THE BASE-MENT, TOO, IF THAT MEANS ANYTHING.
AND, IF THERE'S ANY-THING ELSE I CAN--
HELLO? HELLO?

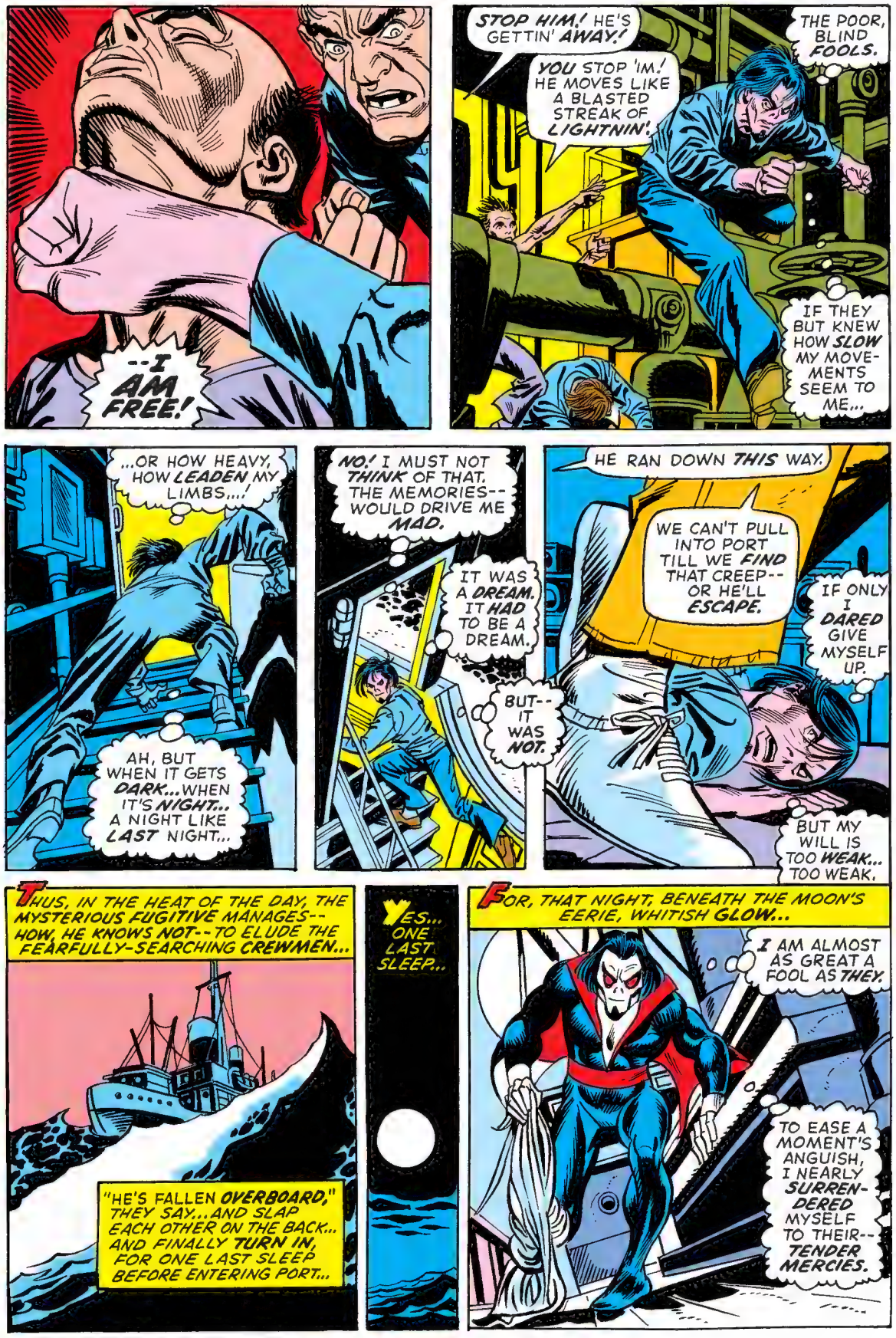

COULDN'T TRUST MYSELF... TO TALK ANY LONGER.
I DON'T WANT ANYBODY TO KNOW...WHAT I'VE BECOME.
NOT ANYBODY. EVER!
WELL...GUESS IT'S TIME TO GET ON THE STICK.
NOT MUCH TO PACK. GOOD THING I WAS ALWAYS TOO BROKE TO BE A FASHION-PLATE.
AND THUS, PETER PARKER LEAVES FOR EXOTIC LONG ISLAND... OR DOES HE?
THINK, MAN. USE THAT FINE, ANALYTICAL MIND THAT GOT YOU INTO THIS MESS.
CAB RIDE...TRAIN RIDE... LUGGING HEAVY SUITCASES, ONE STRAY BREEZE, FLAPPIN' MY COAT OPEN...
...AND IT'S GOOD-BYE, SECRET IDENTITY.
SO, SINCE I CAN'T CARRY A PHONE BOOTH AROUND ON MY BACK...
...LOOKS LIKE IT'D BETTER BE SPIDER-MAN WHO MAKES HIS LONG ISLAND DEBUT.
SO LONG, SWINGIN' BACHELOR PAD, WHEN MY ROOMIE GETS HOME, TELL HIM I'M SORRY I LEFT SUCH A CLUTTER.
WHO KNOWS... MAYBE I'LL BE BACK SOON TO GIVE HIM A HAND...
...AND A HAND... AND A HAND...
AH, SPIDEY... YOU'D BE NOTHIN' WITHOUT YOUR SENSA-HUMOR.
AND THAT'S JUST WHAT YOU ARE... NOTHIN'!


HUH.?
NOW WHAT IN--?
SMEK!
WHEW.!= LUCKY I'M NOT A WALL-CRAWLER IN NAME ONLY.
STILL, I WONDER WHAT MADE ME LOSE MY--
WISE UP, WEBHEAD. HOW MANY TIMES DOES A WALL HAVE TO FALL ON YOU?
IT'S THESE EXTRA ARMS OF YOURS, FLAILING AROUND LIKE CRAZY.
THEY'RE FOULING UP YOUR TIMING, SOME-THING FIERCE.
WELL, GET USED TO 'EM, KID.
THEY MIGHT JUST BE AROUND FOR A LONG, LONG WHILE.
I GUESS--I SHOULD HAVE PRACTICED WITH ALL SIX ARMS--BEFORE I MADE LIKE KA-ZAR.
BUT, MY SPIRO AGNEW WRIST WATCH TELLS ME IT'S NEARLY DAWN...
THWIPP!
THIS IS ONE DAWN THAT'S REALLY GONNA COME UP LIKE THUNDER!
AND, SOME-THING TELLS ME IF I'M NOT OUT OF TOWN BY SUN-UP...
NOW PLAYING

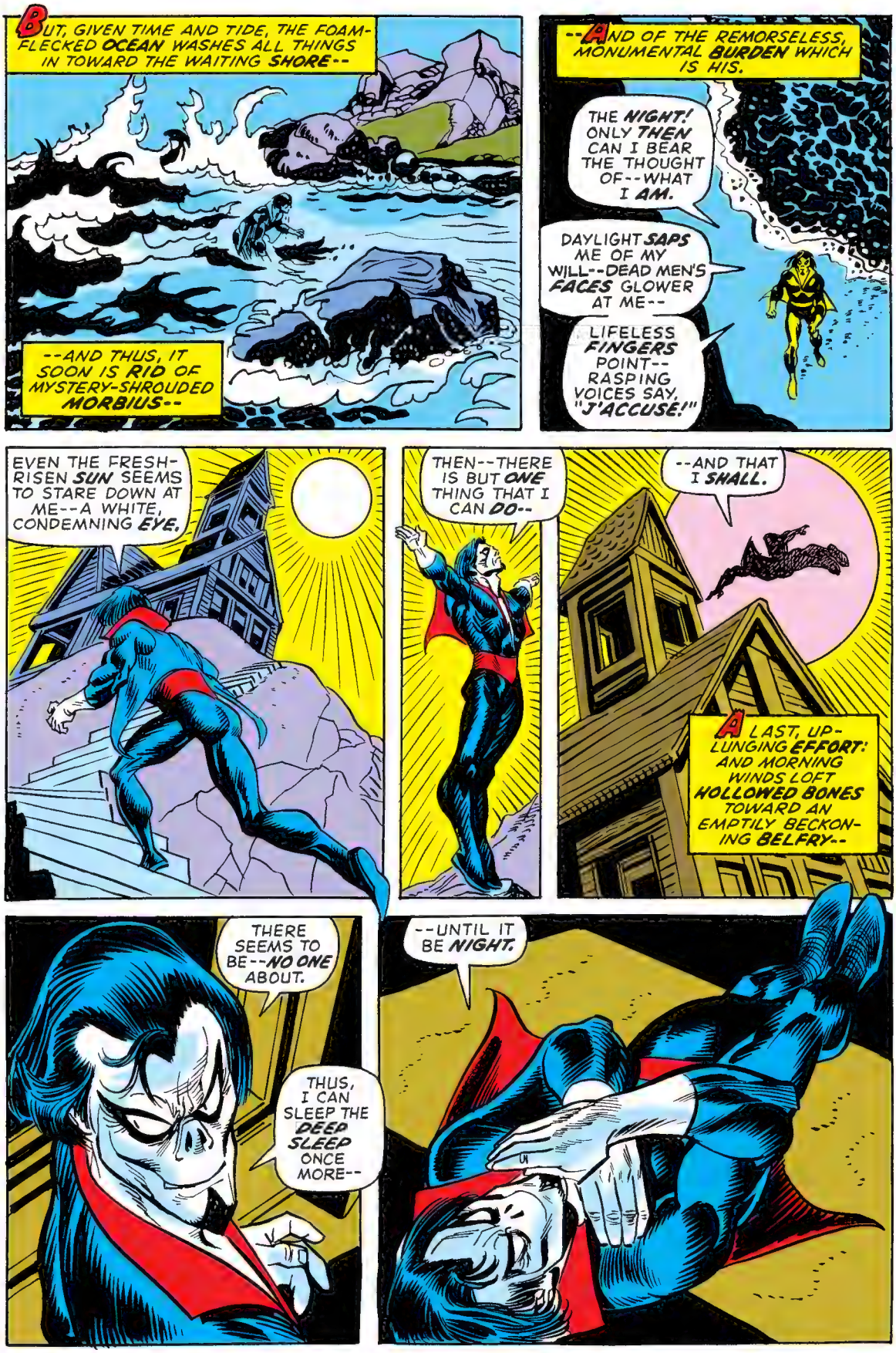

ONE GOOD THING, ANYHOW. I'M A FAST LEARNER.
WITH EVERY BLOCK, I'M GAINING A BIT MORE MUSCLE-CONTROL OVER THESE EXCESS MEMBERS OF MINE.
"EXCESS MEMBERS"? HOOO BOY-- WHERE'D I PICK UP A MAD-DOCTOR PHRASE LIKE THAT?
MUST'VE BEEN ON "CREATURE FEATURE".
ONLY THING IS, RIGHT NOW I FEEL MORE LIKE A LATE-SHOW FRANKENSTEIN--
--THAN I DO LIKE JOHN CARRADINE!
NEVER LAID EYES ON THE PLACE BEFORE...
SOME TIME LATER, THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD LOSES A SOMEWHAT COLORFUL PASSENGER...*
*AND NOPE--HE DIDN'T PAY THE FARE. --STAN.
...BUT FROM THE LOOK OF THINGS, IT'S EVERY BIT AS SECLUDED AS DOC CONNORS SAID IT WAS.
CAN'T SEE WHY THE DOC DOES ALL HIS RESEARCH IN A FLORIDA SWAMP...
...WHEN HE'S GOT THE HOUSE OF DRACULA RIGHT HERE IN SOUTHHAMPTON!
ALL IT NEEDS IS TONY PERKINS IN A FRIGHT WIG, STARING OUT THE WINDOW...
...AND CONNORS COULD SUB-LET IT TO ALFRED HITCH-COCK.
AW, GET OFF IT, SPIDEY. IT'S THE FIRST BLUSH OF DAWN...NOT THE WITCHING HOUR.
AND THIS IS HARDLY A HAUNTED HOUSE...
AT LEAST, IT WASN'T TILL YOU GOT HERE.

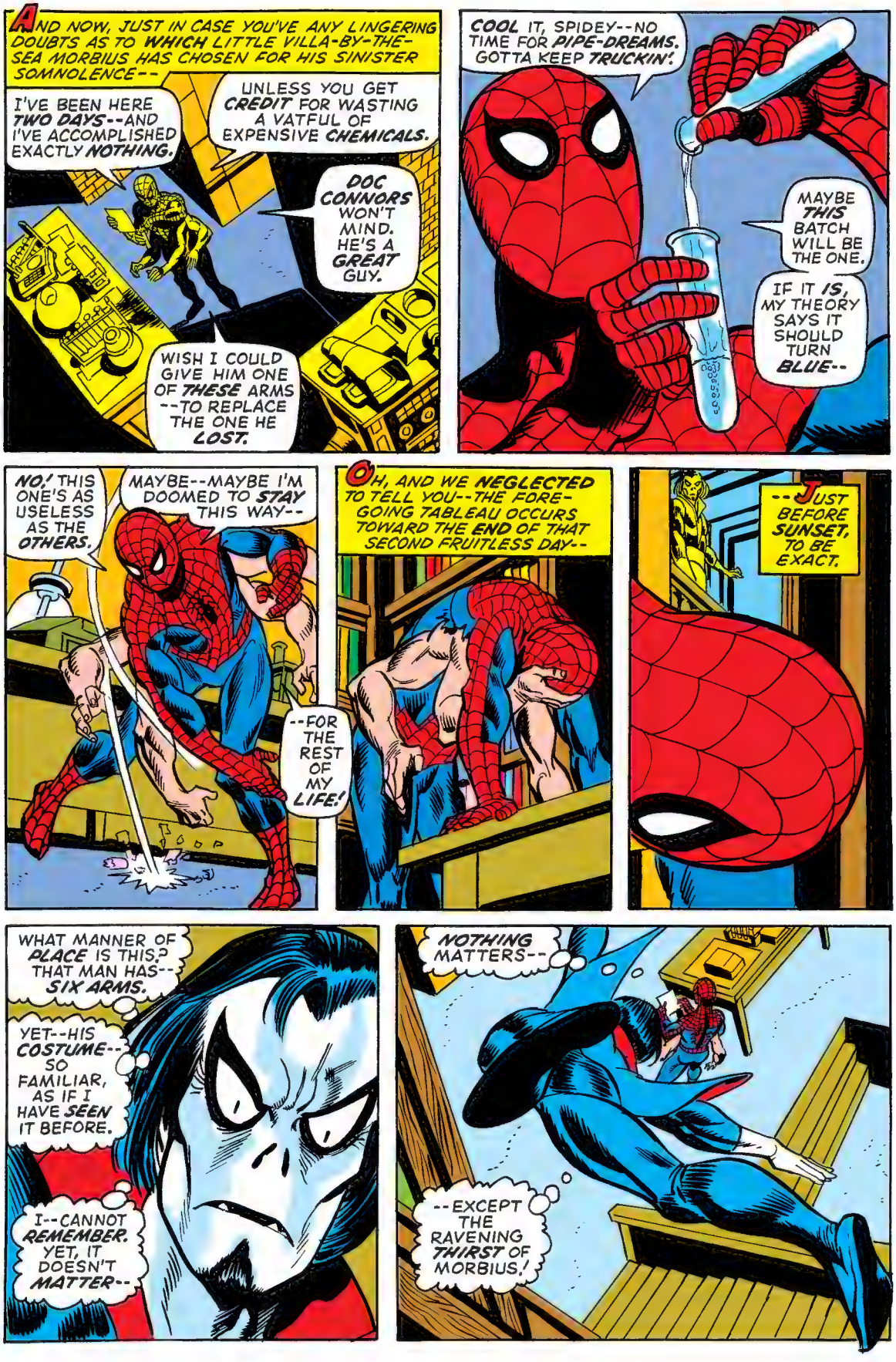

THE PLACE IS EMPTY--I KNOW IT IS--SO WHY IS MY SPIDER SENSE TINGLING TO BEAT THE BAND?
WHY DO I FEEL AN AURA EMANATING FROM ITS DIRECTION--AN AURA OF DEATH AND DECAY--?
LOOK UP, SPIDER-MAN... MAYBE, IN TRYING TO PINPOINT YOUR FEELING OF DREAD, YOU'VE SET YOUR SIGHTS TOO LOW...
MAYBE IT'S NOT THE HOUSE AT ALL WHICH HAS BIRTHED THAT EERIE, SPINE-CHILLING SENSATION...
...BUT THE STRANGELY-BECALMED VESSEL WHICH LIES OMINOUSLY AT ANCHOR, LESS THAN A MILE FROM SHORE...
...A SHIP IN TURMOIL... A VESSEL IN THE THROES OF FEAR AND DARK DESPAIR...
AWRIGHT, WHITEY--SO WHAT'S THE STORY?
YEAH! WHY'RE WE ROTTIN' HERE, WHEN WE SHOULD'A PUT INTO HARBOR BY DAWN?
AN' WHERE'S CAP'N BLOOM?
SHUT YER FLAP, SAM--AN' I'LL TELL YA.
THE CAP'N'S--DEAD. HE BOUGHT IT--LAST NIGHT.
DEAD? WE--WE DIDN'T KNOW.
BUT HOW, WHITEY? HOW'D IT HAPPEN?
DON'T BE A BLASTED FOOL, SAILOR! WE ALL KNOW WHO DID IT.
IT WAS--HIM!
Y-MEAN--THE GUY IN THE HOLD!?
WHO ELSE COULD IT BE?
WE'VE HAD NOTHIN BUT BAD LUCK--AND VANISHIN' CREWMEN--EVER SINCE WE FOUND 'IM ADRIFT IN THE MIDDLE'A THE OCEAN.
I SAY--LET'S DRAG 'IM TOPSIDE--AND BEAT THE TRUTH OUT OF 'IM.
YEAH! LET'S GET 'IM. LET'S GET 'IM NOW!

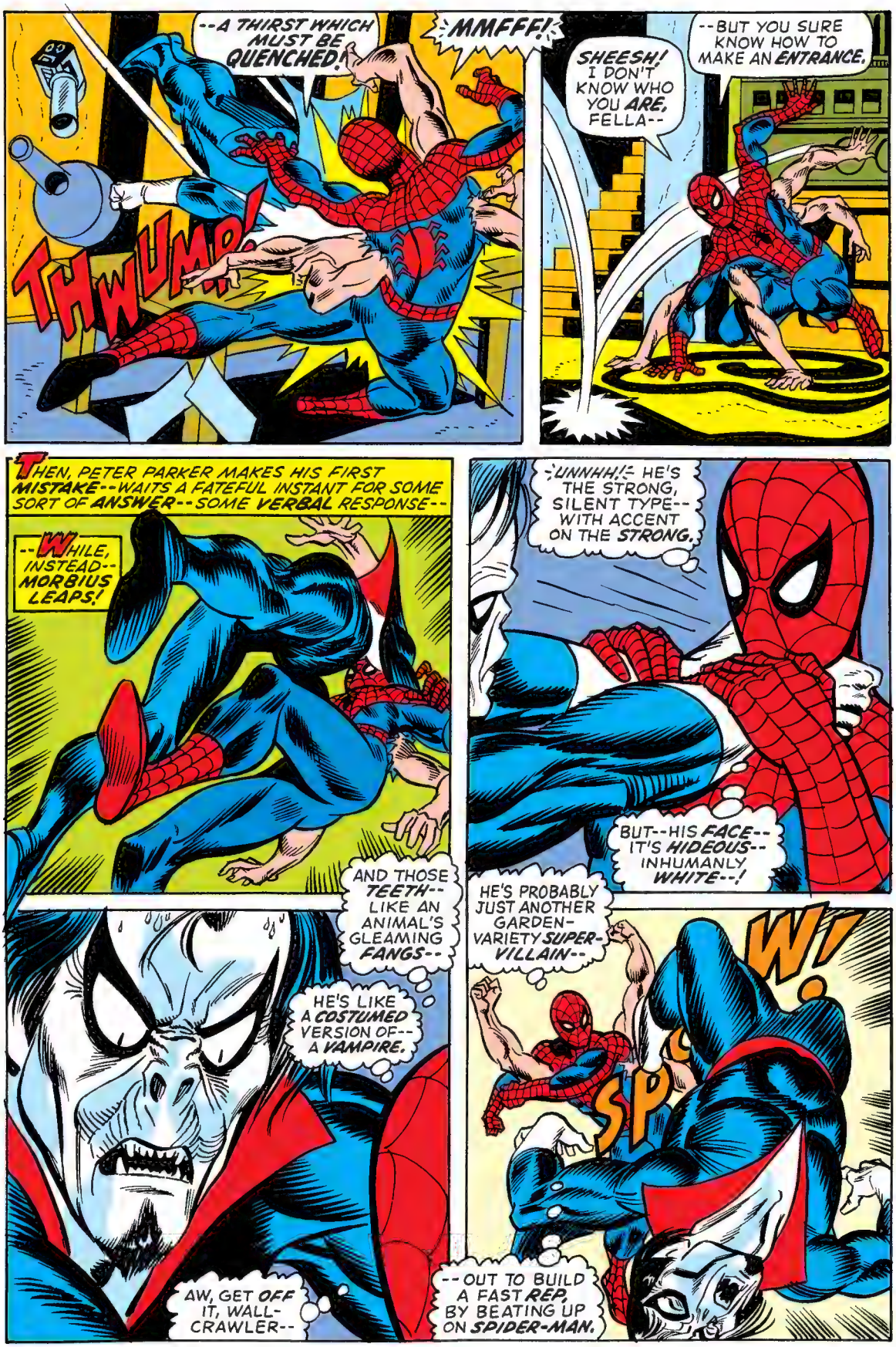
HURRY! DON'T LET 'IM GET AWAY.
WHERE'S HE GONNA RUN TO-- A MILE OUT AT SEA?
C'MON-- HE MUST BE HIDIN' OUT IN THE ENGINE ROOM.
THERE HE IS!
NO--PLEASE-- GO BACK.
I--JUST WANT-- TO GET TO SHORE.
I DON'T-- WANT TO HURT YOU--!
DIDJA HEAR THAT, MATES?
HE DON'T WANNA HURT US.
PLEASE--YOU DON'T KNOW-- WHAT YOU'RE DOING.
WE'RE MAKIN' SURE WE AINT ALL MURDERED IN OUR BUNKS, BUDDY-- AN' THAT'S ENOUGH.
CRIPES! THIS GUY MOVES LIKE HE'S HALF ASLEEP--AN' WE STILL CAN'T PUT A DENT IN HIM.
KEEP POUNDIN' AWAY AT 'IM! REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED TO THE CAP'N.
HOLD 'IM DOWN! HE'S-- TRYIN' TO BREAK FREE.
CORRECTION-- SWINE--

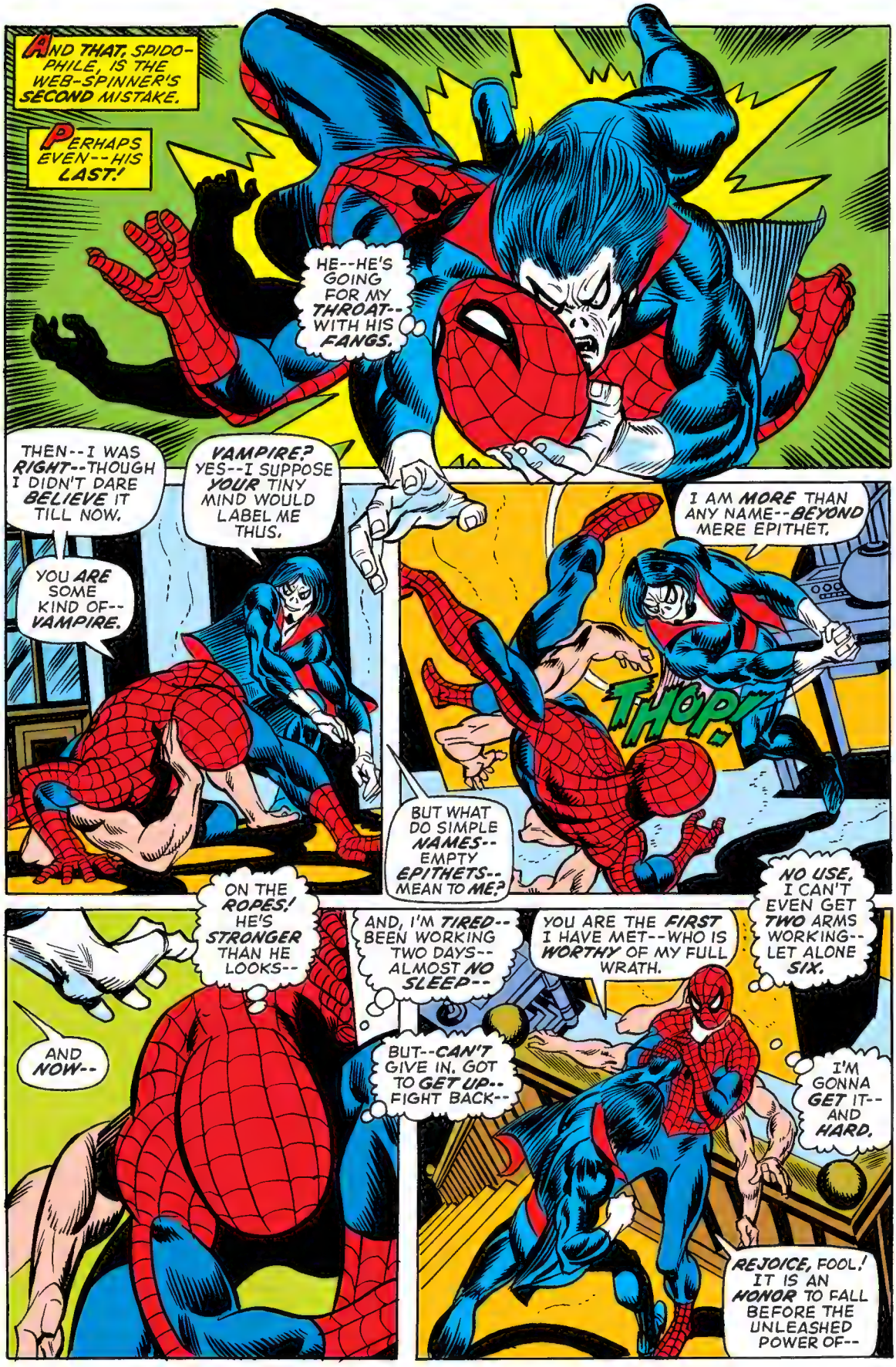

--I AM FREE!
STOP HIM! HE'S GETTIN' AWAY!
YOU STOP 'IM! HE MOVES LIKE A BLASTED STREAK OF LIGHTNIN'!
THE POOR, BLIND FOOLS.
IF THEY BUT KNEW HOW SLOW MY MOVEMENTS SEEM TO ME...
...OR HOW HEAVY, HOW LEADEN MY LIMBS...!
AH, BUT WHEN IT GETS DARK...WHEN IT'S NIGHT... A NIGHT LIKE LAST NIGHT...
NO! I MUST NOT THINK OF THAT. THE MEMORIES--WOULD DRIVE ME MAD.
IT WAS A DREAM. IT HAD TO BE A DREAM.
BUT--IT WAS NOT.
HE RAN DOWN THIS WAY.
WE CAN'T PULL INTO PORT TILL WE FIND THAT CREEP--OR HE'LL ESCAPE.
IF ONLY I DARED GIVE MYSELF UP.
BUT MY WILL IS TOO WEAK... TOO WEAK.
THUS, IN THE HEAT OF THE DAY, THE MYSTERIOUS FUGITIVE MANAGES--HOW, HE KNOWS NOT--TO ELUDE THE FEARFULLY-SEARCHING CREWMEN...
"HE'S FALLEN OVERBOARD," THEY SAY...AND SLAP EACH OTHER ON THE BACK... AND FINALLY TURN IN, FOR ONE LAST SLEEP BEFORE ENTERING PORT...
YES... ONE LAST SLEEP...
FOR, THAT NIGHT, BENEATH THE MOON'S EERIE, WHITISH GLOW...
I AM ALMOST AS GREAT A FOOL AS THEY.
TO EASE A MOMENT'S ANGUISH, I NEARLY SURRENDERED MYSELF TO THEIR--TENDER MERCIES.

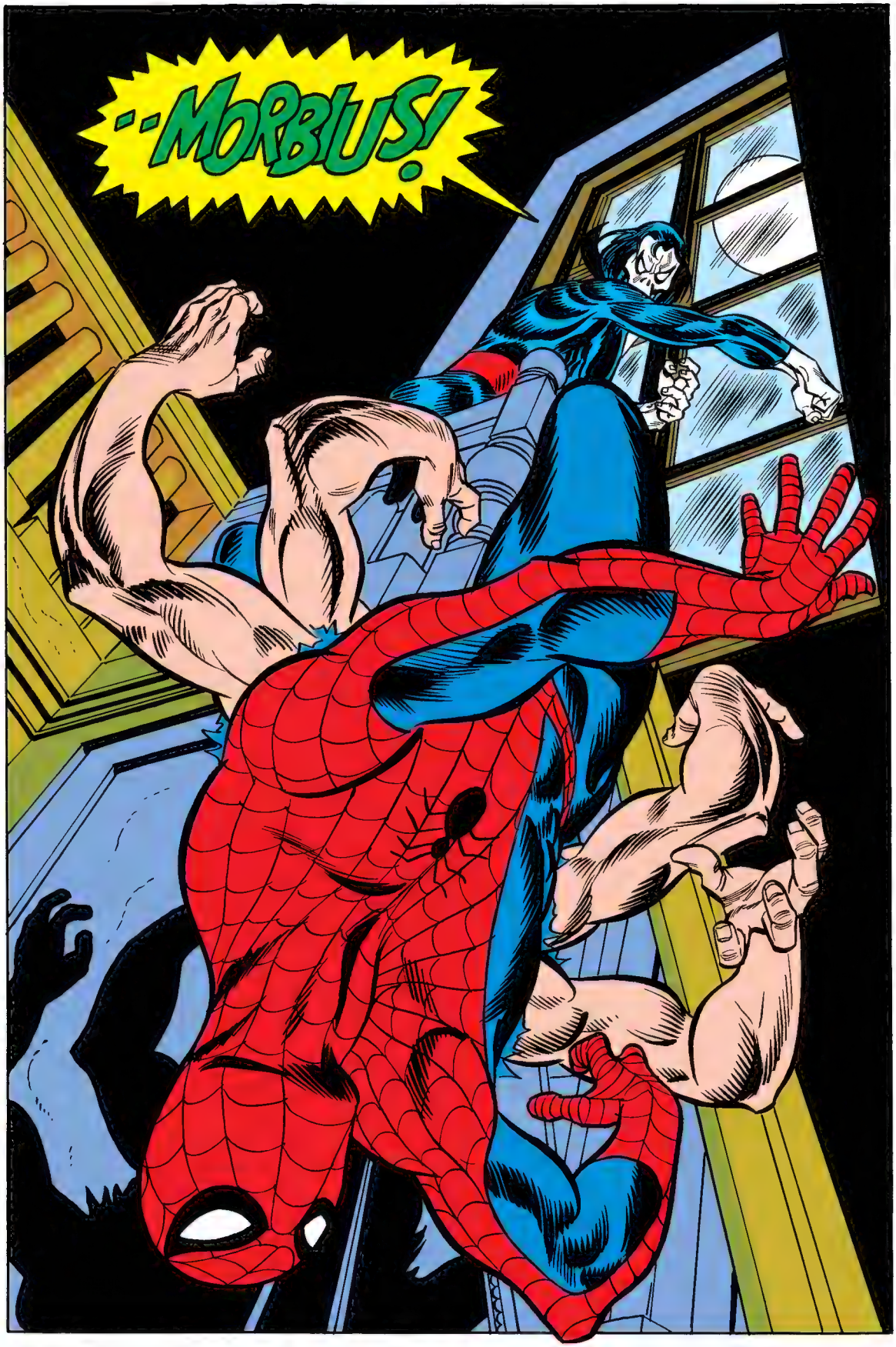
BUT NOW, IT IS NIGHT ONCE MORE --AND THE NIGHT BELONGS TO ME-- TO MORBIUS!
FOR, THE DARKNESS IS A TIME FOR STRANGE THIRSTS--AND WHEN MORBIUS THIRSTS--
--IT MUST BE QUENCHED!
HEY! WHAT IN--??
SO IT'S YOU! WELL, A GOOD RAP OF MY BELAYIN' PIN OUGHTTA--
WH--WHY ARE YOU LOOKIN' AT ME THAT WAY? WHAT-- WHAT'RE YOU GONNA--?
NO! KEEP BACK--! NNOOO!
A GURGLING CRY: CUT SHORT, AS ARE OTHER CRIES THIS NIGHTMARE'S EVE AT SEA...
...CRIES WHICH MADLY DANCE LIKE LIVING THINGS ATOP THE LAPPING, LUNATIC WAVES...
...UNTIL, AMIDST THE FIRST FAINT BLUSH OF DAWN...
HAH! I HAVE TRIUMPHED OVER THEM ALL.
MY THIRST IS ASSUAGED--FOR ANOTHER HELLISH NIGHT.
I LIVE-- WHILE THEY ALL ARE DEAD!
--AND--I ONLY WISH--THAT I WERE THEY.
THEN, A SUDDEN RETCHING--AN IMPULSIVE LEAP INTO THE TIMELESS, UNACCUSING SEA--
--THE SEA THAT MAY HELP THE ONE CALLED MORBIUS FORGET WHAT HE WAS--
--AND WHAT HE IS BECOME--!

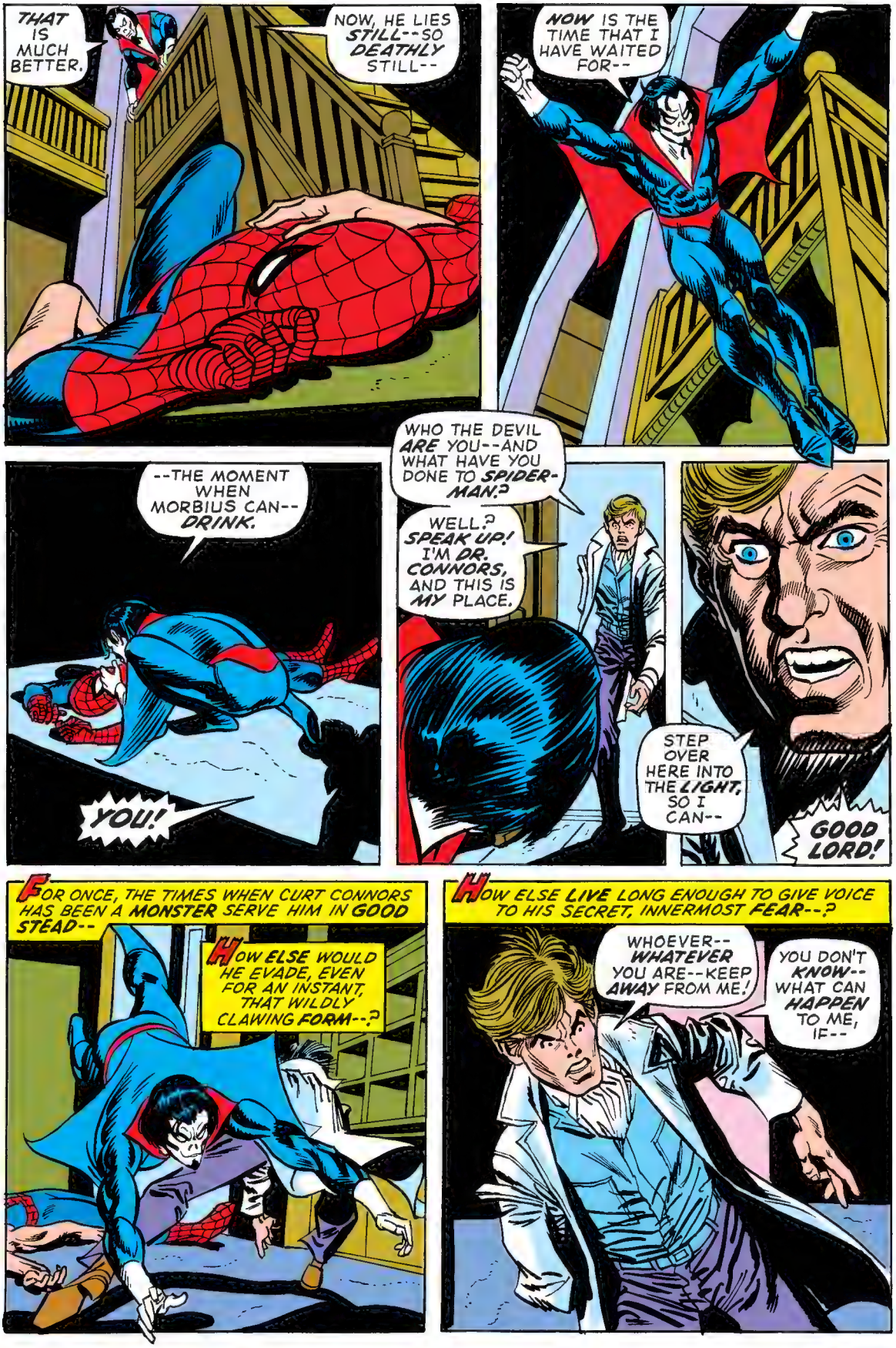

BUT, GIVEN TIME AND TIDE, THE FOAM-FLECKED OCEAN WASHES ALL THINGS IN TOWARD THE WAITING SHORE--
--AND THUS, IT SOON IS RID OF MYSTERY-SHROUDED MORBIUS--
--AND OF THE REMORSELESS, MONUMENTAL BURDEN WHICH IS HIS.
THE NIGHT! ONLY THEN CAN I BEAR THE THOUGHT OF--WHAT I AM.
DAYLIGHT SAPS ME OF MY WILL--DEAD MEN'S FACES GLOWER AT ME--
LIFELESS FINGERS POINT--RASPING VOICES SAY, "J'ACCUSE!"
EVEN THE FRESH-RISEN SUN SEEMS TO STARE DOWN AT ME--A WHITE, CONDEMNING EYE.
THEN--THERE IS BUT ONE THING THAT I CAN DO--
--AND THAT I SHALL.
A LAST, UP-LUNGING EFFORT: AND MORNING WINDS LOFT HOLLOWED BONES TOWARD AN EMPTILY BECKON-ING BELFRY--
THERE SEEMS TO BE--NO ONE ABOUT.
THUS, I CAN SLEEP THE DEEP SLEEP ONCE MORE--
--UNTIL IT BE NIGHT.


AND NOW, JUST IN CASE YOU'VE ANY LINGERING DOUBTS AS TO WHICH LITTLE VILLA-BY-THE-SEA MORBIUS HAS CHOSEN FOR HIS SINISTER SOMNOLENCE--
I'VE BEEN HERE TWO DAYS--AND I'VE ACCOMPLISHED EXACTLY NOTHING.
UNLESS YOU GET CREDIT FOR WASTING A VATFUL OF EXPENSIVE CHEMICALS.
DOC CONNORS WON'T MIND. HE'S A GREAT GUY.
WISH I COULD GIVE HIM ONE OF THESE ARMS --TO REPLACE THE ONE HE LOST.
COOL IT, SPIDEY--NO TIME FOR PIPE-DREAMS. GOTTA KEEP TRUCKIN'!
MAYBE THIS BATCH WILL BE THE ONE.
IF IT IS, MY THEORY SAYS IT SHOULD TURN BLUE--
NO! THIS ONE'S AS USELESS AS THE OTHERS.
MAYBE--MAYBE I'M DOOMED TO STAY THIS WAY--
--FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!
OH, AND WE NEGLECTED TO TELL YOU--THE FORE-GOING TABLEAU OCCURS TOWARD THE END OF THAT SECOND FRUITLESS DAY--
--JUST BEFORE SUNSET, TO BE EXACT.
WHAT MANNER OF PLACE IS THIS? THAT MAN HAS-- SIX ARMS.
YET--HIS COSTUME-- SO FAMILIAR, AS IF I HAVE SEEN IT BEFORE.
I--CANNOT REMEMBER. YET, IT DOESN'T MATTER--
NOTHING MATTERS--
--EXCEPT THE RAVENING THIRST OF MORBIUS!


--A THIRST WHICH MUST BE QUENCHED!
:MMFFF!:
THWUMP!
SHEESH! I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, FELLA--
--BUT YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO MAKE AN ENTRANCE.
THEN, PETER PARKER MAKES HIS FIRST MISTAKE--WAITS A FATEFUL INSTANT FOR SOME SORT OF ANSWER--SOME VERBAL RESPONSE--
--WHILE, INSTEAD--MORBIUS LEAPS!
:UNNHH!: HE'S THE STRONG, SILENT TYPE--WITH ACCENT ON THE STRONG.
BUT--HIS FACE--IT'S HIDEOUS--INHUMANLY WHITE--!
AND THOSE TEETH--LIKE AN ANIMAL'S GLEAMING FANGS--
HE'S LIKE A COSTUMED VERSION OF--A VAMPIRE.
AW, GET OFF IT, WALL-CRAWLER--
HE'S PROBABLY JUST ANOTHER GARDEN-VARIETY SUPER-VILLAIN--
W!
SP
--OUT TO BUILD A FAST REP, BY BEATING UP ON SPIDER-MAN.


AND THAT, SPIDO-PHILE, IS THE WEB-SPINNER'S SECOND MISTAKE.
PERHAPS EVEN--HIS LAST!
HE--HE'S GOING FOR MY THROAT--WITH HIS FANGS.
THEN--I WAS RIGHT--THOUGH I DIDN'T DARE BELIEVE IT TILL NOW.
VAMPIRE? YES--I SUPPOSE YOUR TINY MIND WOULD LABEL ME THUS.
YOU ARE SOME KIND OF--VAMPIRE.
I AM MORE THAN ANY NAME--BEYOND MERE EPITHET.
THOP!
BUT WHAT DO SIMPLE NAMES--EMPTY EPITHETS--MEAN TO ME?
ON THE ROPES! HE'S STRONGER THAN HE LOOKS--
AND, I'M TIRED--BEEN WORKING TWO DAYS--ALMOST NO SLEEP--
YOU ARE THE FIRST I HAVE MET--WHO IS WORTHY OF MY FULL WRATH.
NO USE, I CAN'T EVEN GET TWO ARMS WORKING--LET ALONE SIX.
AND NOW--
BUT--CAN'T GIVE IN, GOT TO GET UP--FIGHT BACK--
I'M GONNA GET IT--AND HARD.
REJOICE, FOOL! IT IS AN HONOR TO FALL BEFORE THE UNLEASHED POWER OF--


--MORBIUS!


THAT IS MUCH BETTER.
NOW, HE LIES STILL--SO DEATHLY STILL--
NOW IS THE TIME THAT I HAVE WAITED FOR--
--THE MOMENT WHEN MORBIUS CAN-- DRINK.
YOU!
WHO THE DEVIL ARE YOU--AND WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO SPIDER-MAN?
WELL? SPEAK UP! I'M DR. CONNORS, AND THIS IS MY PLACE.
STEP OVER HERE INTO THE LIGHT, SO I CAN--
GOOD LORD!
FOR ONCE, THE TIMES WHEN CURT CONNORS HAS BEEN A MONSTER SERVE HIM IN GOOD STEAD--
HOW ELSE WOULD HE EVADE, EVEN FOR AN INSTANT, THAT WILDLY CLAWING FORM--?
HOW ELSE LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO GIVE VOICE TO HIS SECRET, INNERMOST FEAR--?
WHOEVER-- WHATEVER YOU ARE--KEEP AWAY FROM ME!
YOU DON'T KNOW-- WHAT CAN HAPPEN TO ME, IF--

NO! IT'S--TOO LATE!
THE EXCITEMENT-- THE FEAR-- IT'S CHANGING ME AGAIN--
--CHANGING ME INTO--
--THE LIZARD!
MAN--OR MAN-LIKE LIZARD-- STAND AWAY FROM THE CHOSEN VICTIM OF MORBIUS!
NEVER! SPIDER-MAN IS MY ENEMY!
MINE MUST BE THE HAND THAT KILLS HIM. MINE!
HUHNN? VOICES? BUT WHO--?
OH NNOOOO!!
TO BE CONCLUDED--
IN ISH #102--THE FIRST DOUBLE-SIZE, DOUBLE-ACTION ISSUE OF SPIDER-MAN! 'NUFF SAID!

SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL COMICS GROUP™
25¢
CC
102
NOV
02457
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
IF MORBIUS DOESN'T KILL SPIDEY--
THE LIZARD WILL!
ALL NEW
'NUFF SAID!
VAMPIRE AT LARGE!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
THE TITLE SAYS IT ALL:
VAMPIRE AT LARGE!
MAN--OR MAN-LIKE LIZARD--STAND AWAY FROM THE CHOSEN VICTIM OF MORBIUS!
NEVER! SPIDER-MAN IS MY ENEMY.
MINE MUST BE THE HAND THAT SLAYS HIM!
MINE!
CONFUSED? WELL, DON'T GO 'WAY, SPIDOPHILE--'CAUSE YOU'VE GOT 35 ALL-NEW, ALL-ACTION PAGES TO GO--!
STAN LEE EDITOR * ROY THOMAS WRITER * GIL KANE ARTIST * FRANK GIACOIA INKER * ART SIMEK LETTERER
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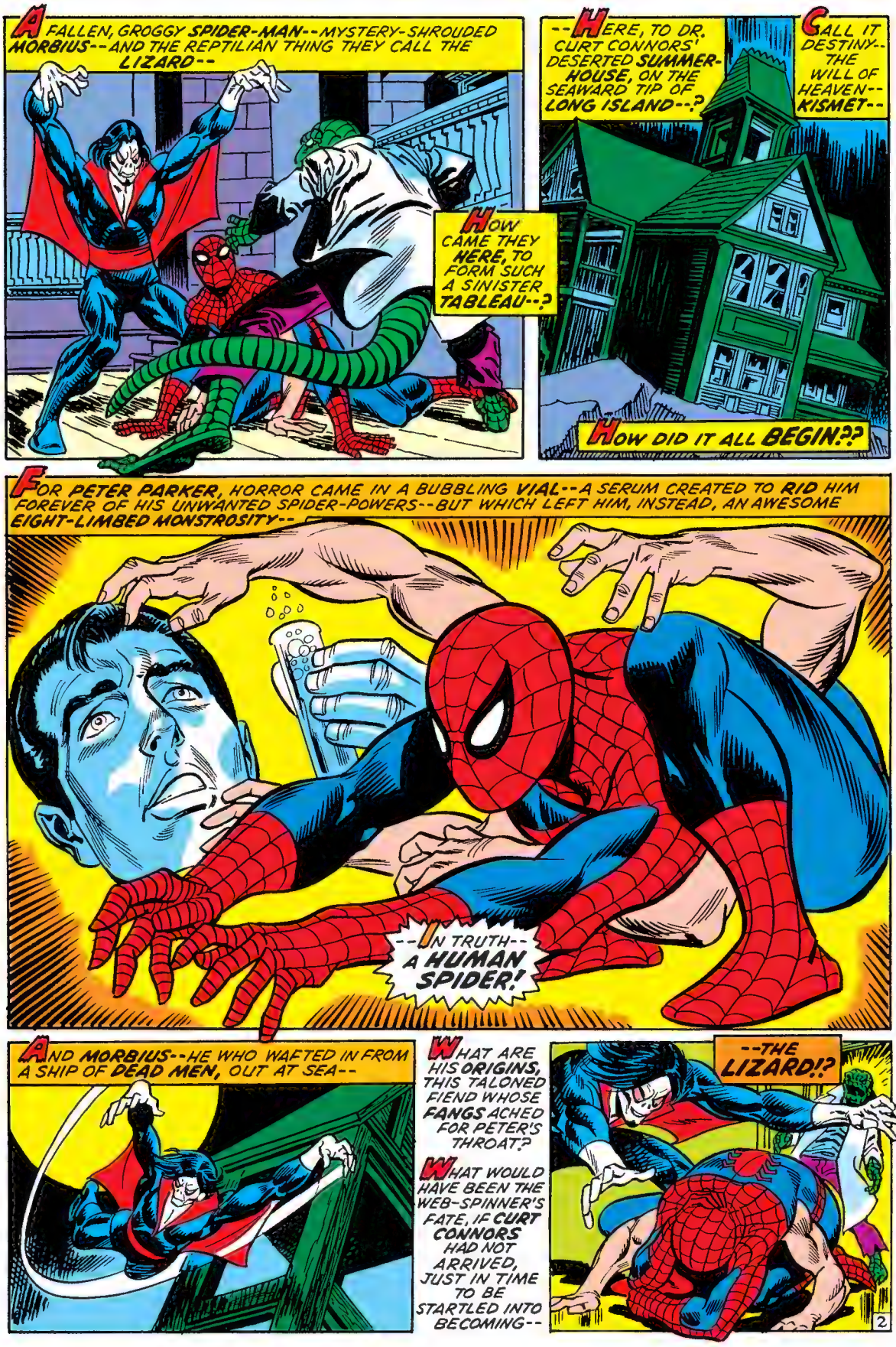
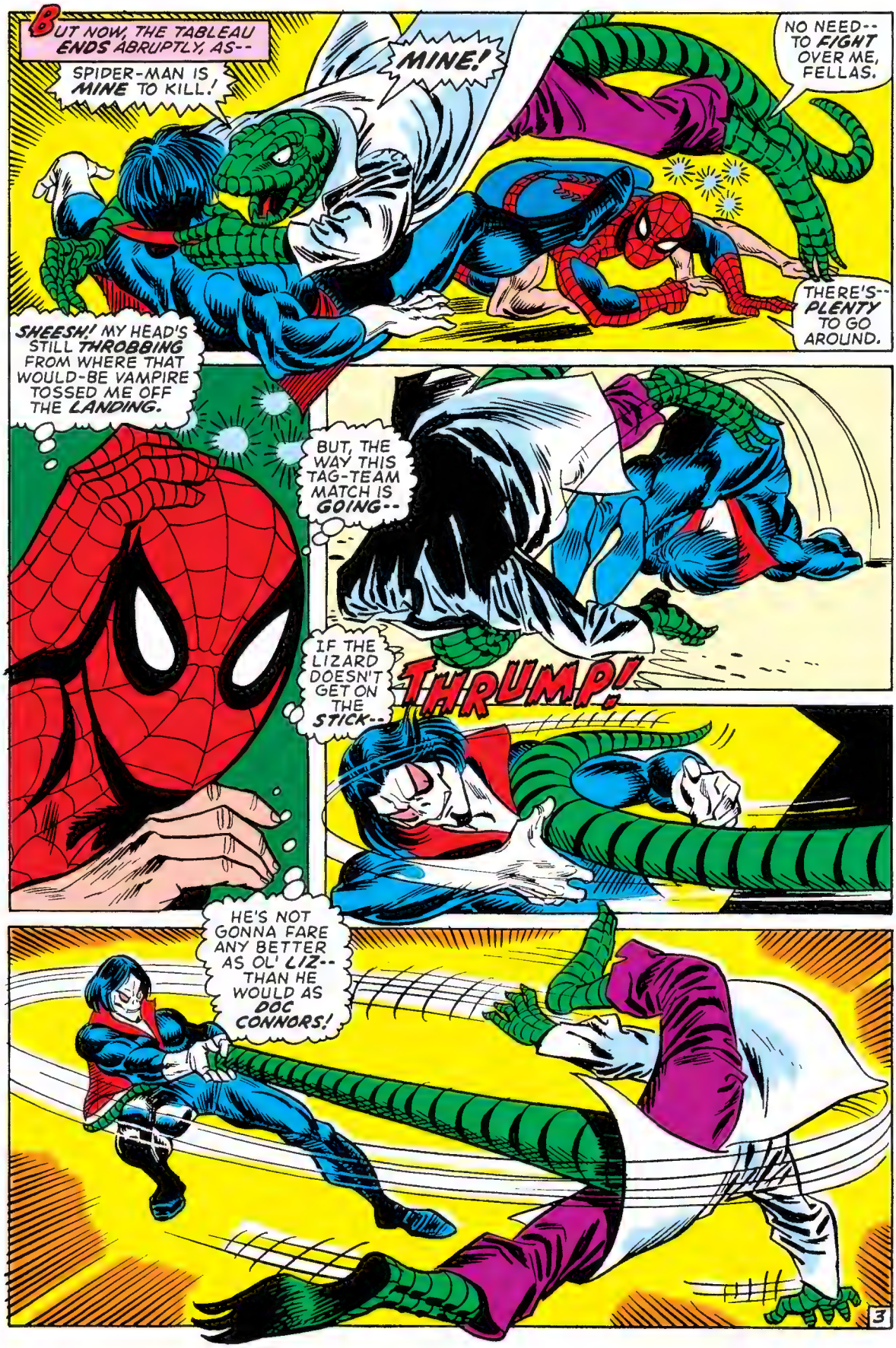
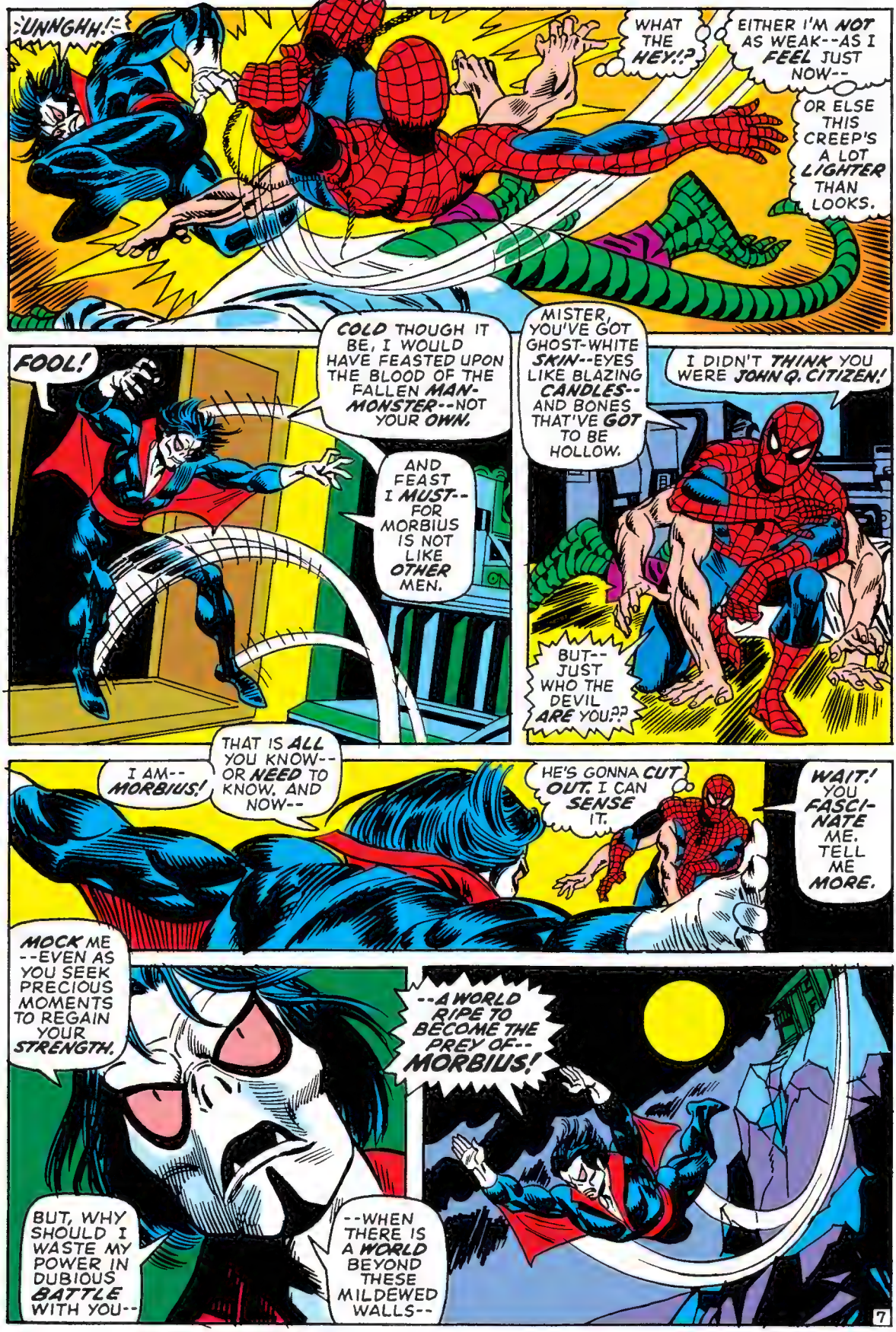

A FALLEN, GROGGY SPIDER-MAN--MYSTERY-SHROUDED MORBIUS--AND THE REPTILIAN THING THEY CALL THE LIZARD--
HOW CAME THEY HERE, TO FORM SUCH A SINISTER TABLEAU--?
--HERE, TO DR. CURT CONNORS' DESERTED SUMMER-HOUSE, ON THE SEAWARD TIP OF LONG ISLAND--?
CALL IT DESTINY--THE WILL OF HEAVEN--KISMET--
HOW DID IT ALL BEGIN??
FOR PETER PARKER, HORROR CAME IN A BUBBLING VIAL--A SERUM CREATED TO RID HIM FOREVER OF HIS UNWANTED SPIDER-POWERS--BUT WHICH LEFT HIM, INSTEAD, AN AWESOME EIGHT-LIMBED MONSTROSITY--
--IN TRUTH--A HUMAN SPIDER!
AND MORBIUS--HE WHO WAFTED IN FROM A SHIP OF DEAD MEN, OUT AT SEA--
WHAT ARE HIS ORIGINS, THIS TALONED FIEND WHOSE FANGS ACHED FOR PETER'S THROAT?
WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE WEB-SPINNER'S FATE, IF CURT CONNORS HAD NOT ARRIVED, JUST IN TIME TO BE STARTLED INTO BECOMING--
--THE LIZARD!?
2

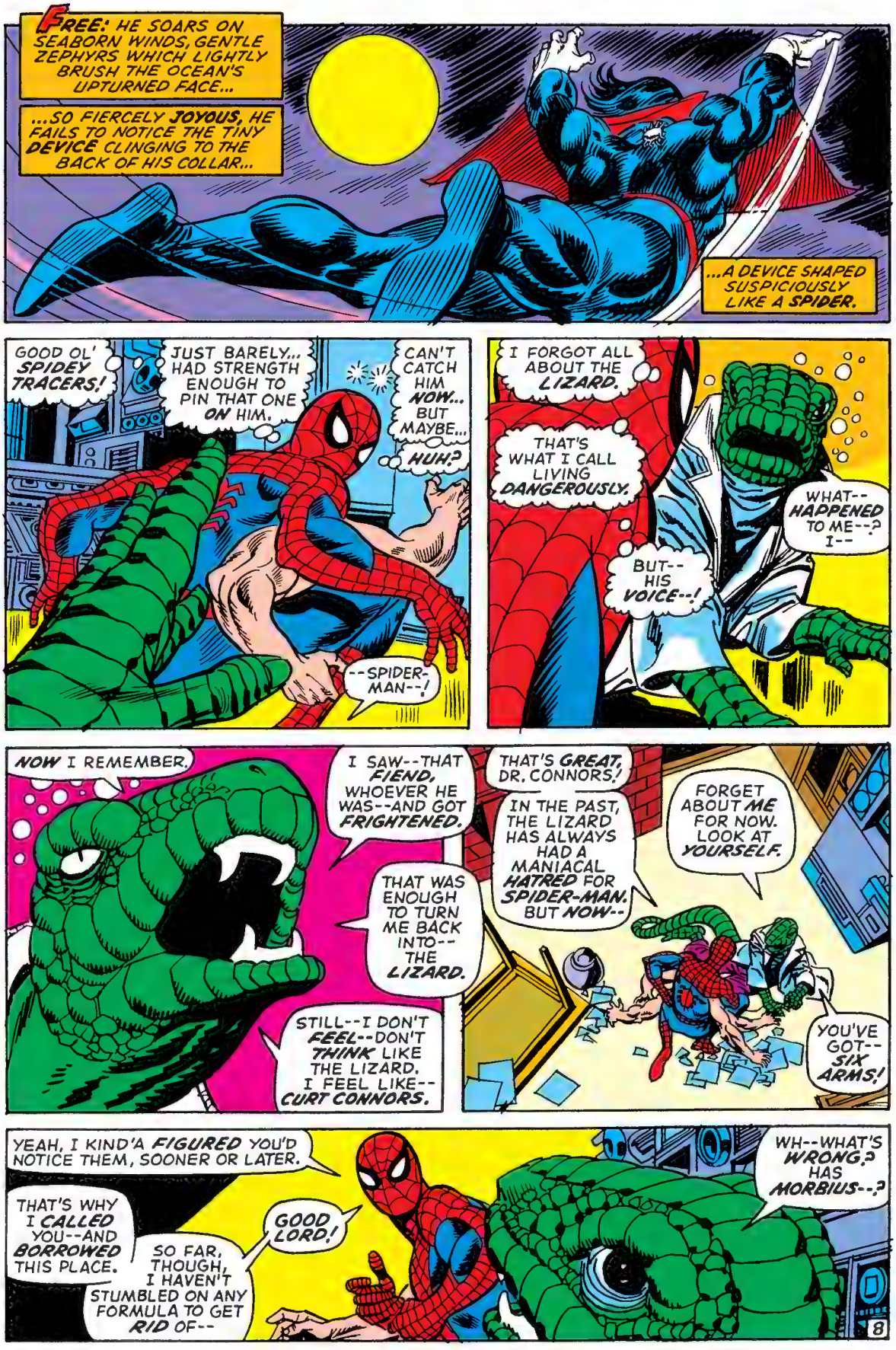

BUT NOW, THE TABLEAU ENDS ABRUPTLY, AS--
SPIDER-MAN IS MINE TO KILL!
MINE!
NO NEED-- TO FIGHT OVER ME, FELLAS.
THERE'S-- PLENTY TO GO AROUND.
SHEESH! MY HEAD'S STILL THROBBING FROM WHERE THAT WOULD-BE VAMPIRE TOSSED ME OFF THE LANDING.
BUT, THE WAY THIS TAG-TEAM MATCH IS GOING--
IF THE LIZARD DOESN'T GET ON THE STICK--
THRUMP!
HE'S NOT GONNA FARE ANY BETTER AS OL' LIZ-- THAN HE WOULD AS DOC CONNORS!
3

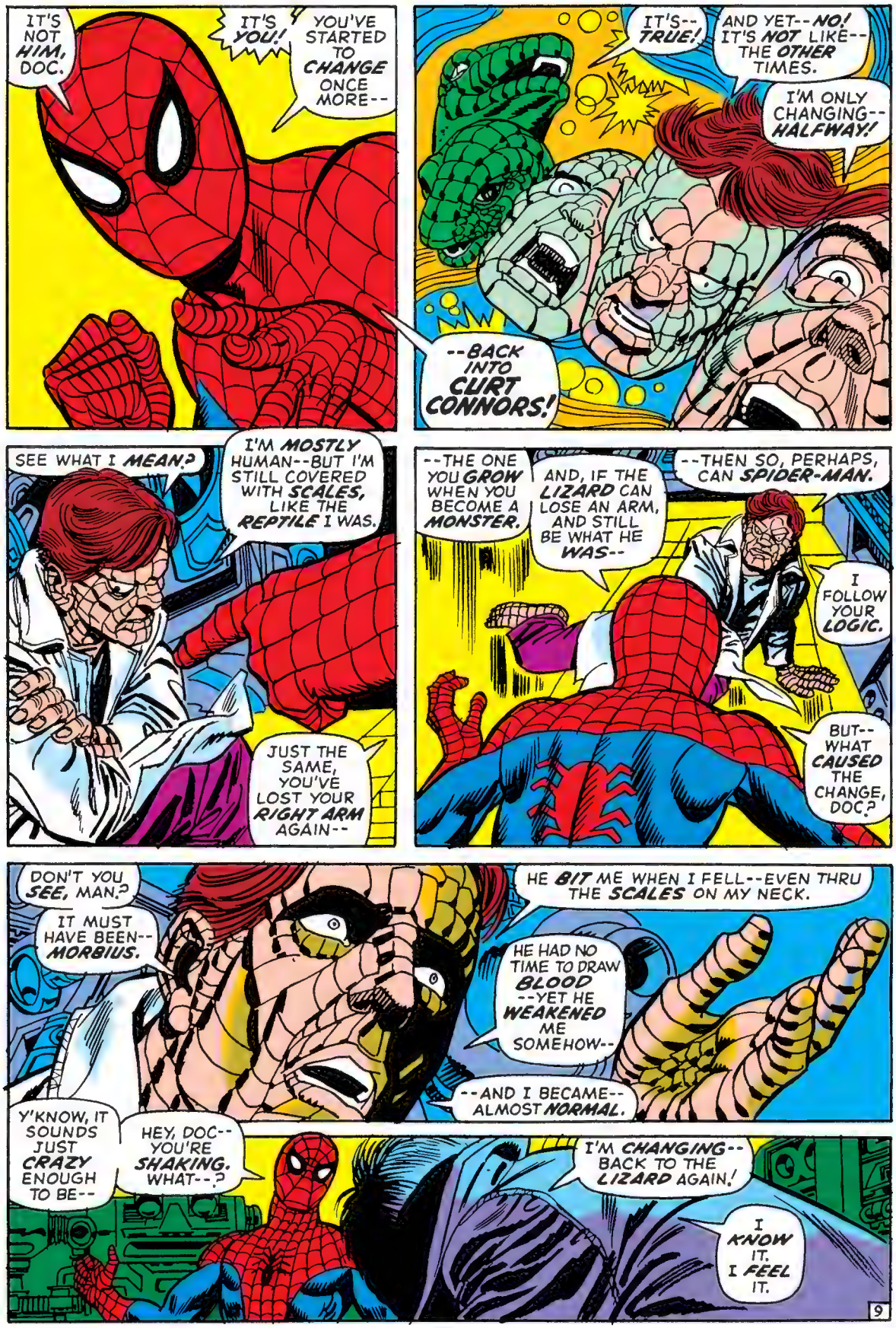
AND, 'TWOULD SEEM THAT SPIDEY'S EYESIGHT, AT LEAST IS UNIMPAIRED--
I KNOW NOT WHO YOU ARE--NOR WHAT YOU ARE--
BUT YOU'LL FIND MORBIUS FAR MORE POWERFUL THAN HE SEEMS.
SPLAK!
WHILE YOU SHALL FIND THAT I AM PRECISELY AS STRONG AS I APPEAR--
BTOK!
--WHICH IS STRONG INDEED!
NOW, FOR THE FINAL TIME, LEAVE SPIDER-MAN TO ME--
DEATH? I CARE NOT WHETHER THE MASKED YOUTH LIVES OR DIES.
I DESIRE ONLY HIS BLOOD--THOUGH PERHAPS YOURS WOULD DO AS WELL.
PERHAPS--BUT THAT, YOU SHALL NEVER LEARN.
--OR PREPARE TO JOIN HIM--IN DEATH!

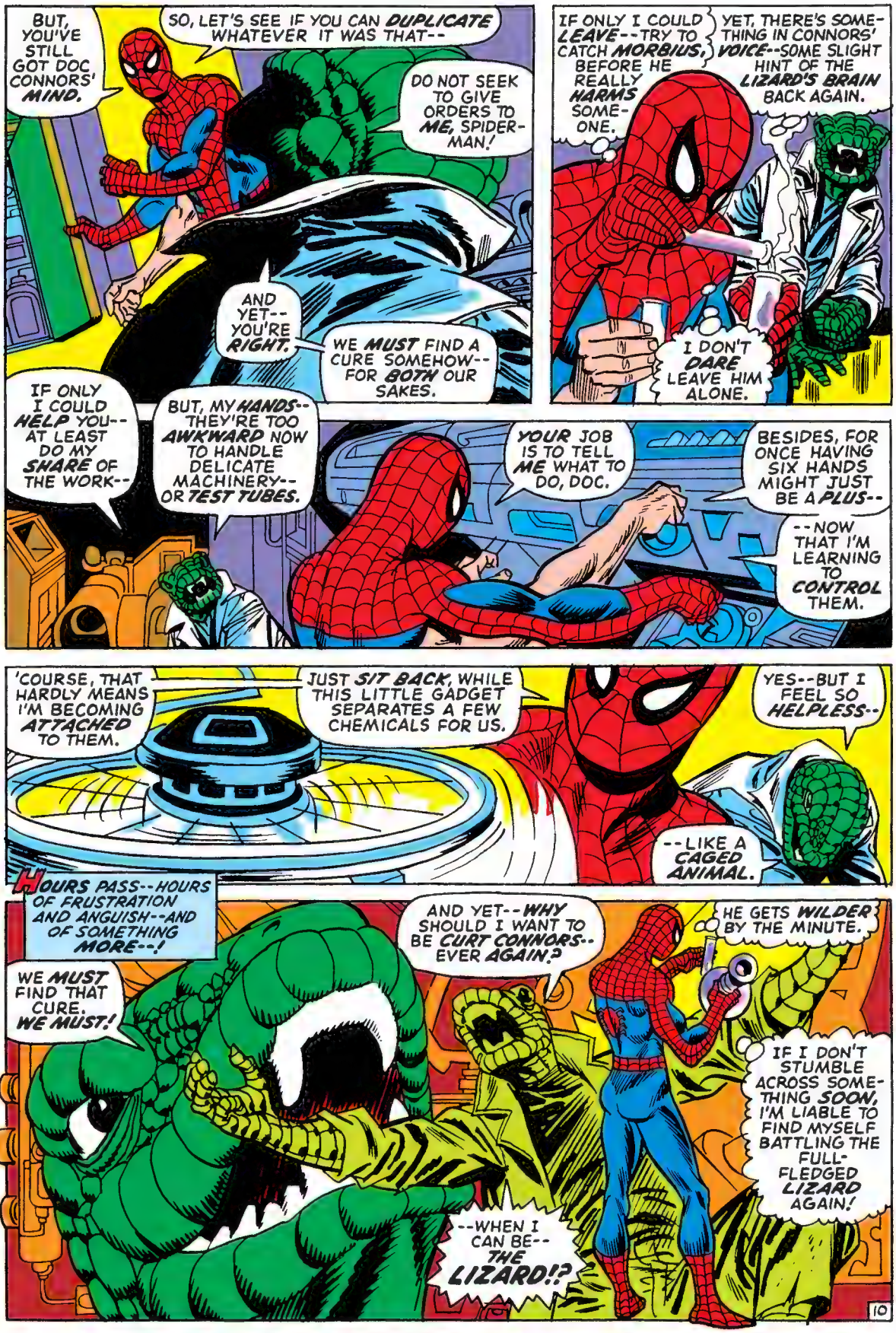
WHEW! I COULD FEEL THAT ONE WAY UP HERE!
THIS IS TURNING INTO A REAL FREE-FOR-ALL.
AND THE DOOR-PRIZE IS YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN!
SPACED-OUT AS I AM--MAYBE I COULD STILL LEAP IN AND DECIDE THIS THING, ONE WAY OR THE OTHER--
BUT WHICH WAY??
FZAP!
"I SURE CAN'T ROOT FOR MORBIUS!
"WHO-EVER HE IS, HE'S OUT FOR BLOOD--MY BLOOD!
"BUT, THERE'S NO TRACE OF DOC CONNORS LEFT IN THE LIZARD--AND HE'S THE ONE WHO REALLY LOATHES ME!
SPLUNG!
"MAYBE I'VE NO CHOICE--BUT TO LET 'EM SLUG IT OUT--WEAR EACH OTHER DOWN FOR A WHILE--
"--THOUGH IT LOOKS LIKE MATTERS ARE ABOUT TO BE TAKEN OUT OF MY HANDS!
WHUMFF!
HSSSS
5

"I WAS RIGHT! THE LIZARD'S BEEN BELTED INTO ONE OF DOC'S FAR-OUT FRAMMISTATS--
ZZZZZZZZZ
"--AND HE'S TAKIN' IN ENOUGH VOLTAGE TO LIGHT UP MACY'S CHRISTMAS TREE!
"UNLESS I MISS MY EVER-LOVIN' GUESS--
ZAP
HSSS

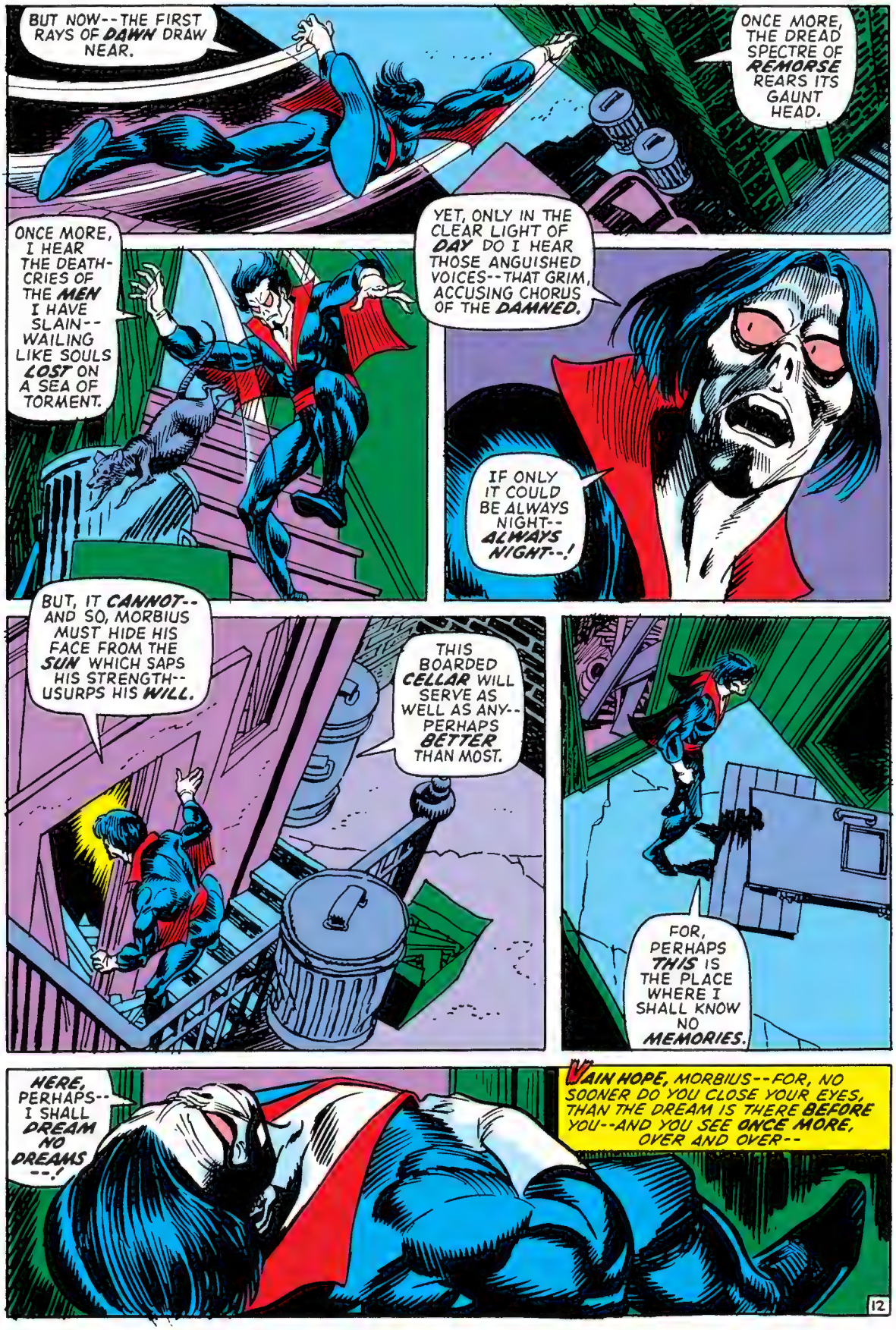

:UNNGHH!:
WHAT THE HEY!?
EITHER I'M NOT AS WEAK--AS I FEEL JUST NOW--
OR ELSE THIS CREEP'S A LOT LIGHTER THAN LOOKS.
FOOL!
COLD THOUGH IT BE, I WOULD HAVE FEASTED UPON THE BLOOD OF THE FALLEN MAN-MONSTER--NOT YOUR OWN.
AND FEAST I MUST--FOR MORBIUS IS NOT LIKE OTHER MEN.
MISTER, YOU'VE GOT GHOST-WHITE SKIN--EYES LIKE BLAZING CANDLES--AND BONES THAT'VE GOT TO BE HOLLOW.
I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE JOHN Q. CITIZEN!
BUT--JUST WHO THE DEVIL ARE YOU??
I AM--MORBIUS!
THAT IS ALL YOU KNOW--OR NEED TO KNOW. AND NOW--
HE'S GONNA CUT OUT. I CAN SENSE IT.
WAIT! YOU FASCI-NATE ME. TELL ME MORE.
MOCK ME--EVEN AS YOU SEEK PRECIOUS MOMENTS TO REGAIN YOUR STRENGTH.
--A WORLD RIPE TO BECOME THE PREY OF--MORBIUS!
BUT, WHY SHOULD I WASTE MY POWER IN DUBIOUS BATTLE WITH YOU--
--WHEN THERE IS A WORLD BEYOND THESE MILDEWED WALLS--

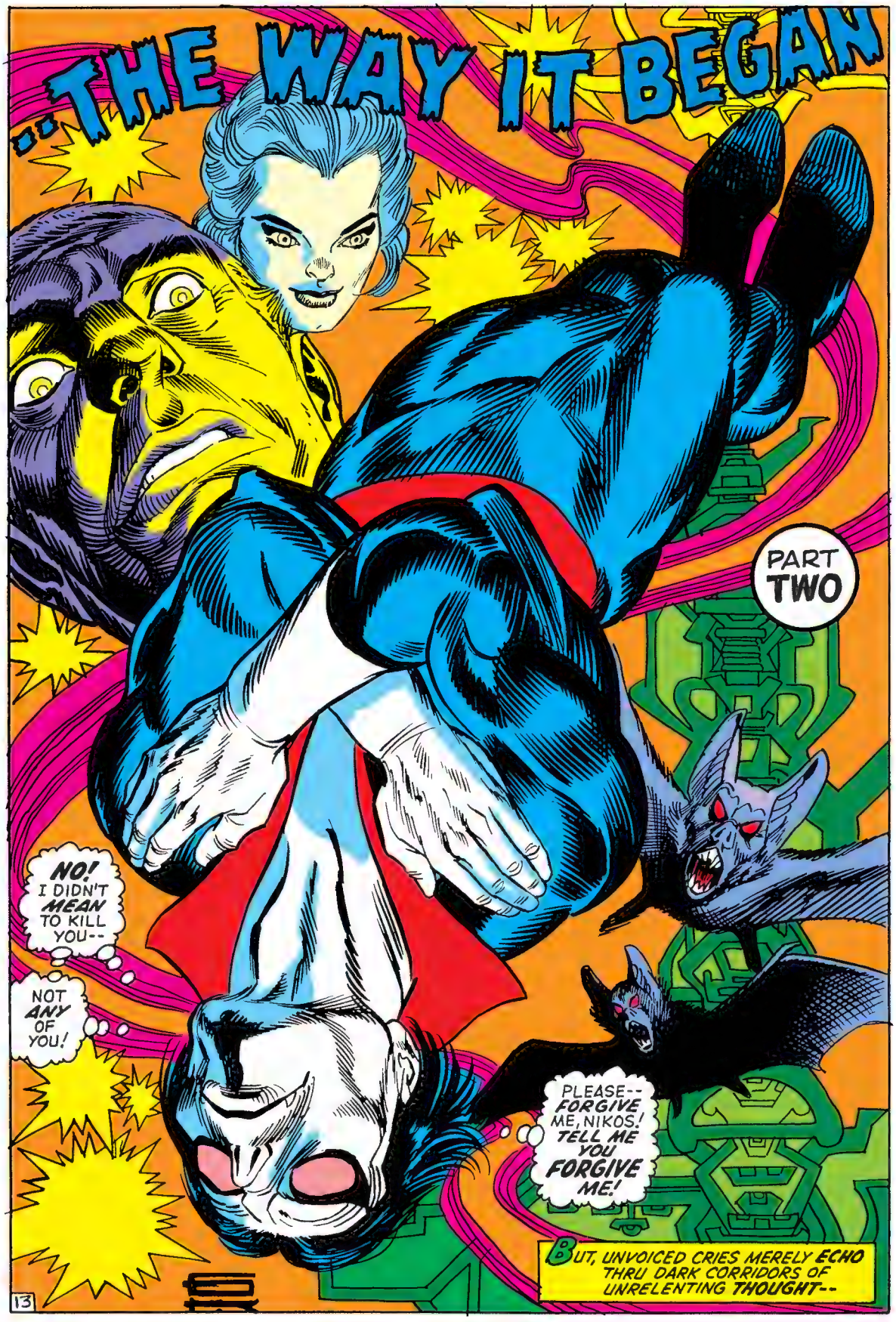

FREE: HE SOARS ON SEABORN WINDS, GENTLE ZEPHYRS WHICH LIGHTLY BRUSH THE OCEAN'S UPTURNED FACE...
...SO FIERCELY JOYOUS, HE FAILS TO NOTICE THE TINY DEVICE CLINGING TO THE BACK OF HIS COLLAR...
...A DEVICE SHAPED SUSPICIOUSLY LIKE A SPIDER.
GOOD OL' SPIDEY TRACERS!
JUST BARELY... HAD STRENGTH ENOUGH TO PIN THAT ONE ON HIM.
CAN'T CATCH HIM NOW... BUT MAYBE... HUH?
--SPIDER-MAN--!
I FORGOT ALL ABOUT THE LIZARD.
THAT'S WHAT I CALL LIVING DANGEROUSLY.
BUT-- HIS VOICE--!
WHAT-- HAPPENED TO ME--? I--
NOW I REMEMBER.
I SAW--THAT FIEND, WHOEVER HE WAS--AND GOT FRIGHTENED.
THAT WAS ENOUGH TO TURN ME BACK INTO-- THE LIZARD.
STILL--I DON'T FEEL--DON'T THINK LIKE THE LIZARD. I FEEL LIKE-- CURT CONNORS.
THAT'S GREAT, DR. CONNORS!
IN THE PAST, THE LIZARD HAS ALWAYS HAD A MANIACAL HATRED FOR SPIDER-MAN. BUT NOW--
FORGET ABOUT ME FOR NOW. LOOK AT YOURSELF.
YOU'VE GOT-- SIX ARMS!
YEAH, I KIND'A FIGURED YOU'D NOTICE THEM, SOONER OR LATER.
THAT'S WHY I CALLED YOU--AND BORROWED THIS PLACE.
GOOD LORD!
SO FAR, THOUGH, I HAVEN'T STUMBLED ON ANY FORMULA TO GET RID OF--
WH--WHAT'S WRONG? HAS MORBIUS--?
8


IT'S NOT HIM, DOC.
IT'S YOU!
YOU'VE STARTED TO CHANGE ONCE MORE--
IT'S-- TRUE!
AND YET--NO! IT'S NOT LIKE-- THE OTHER TIMES.
I'M ONLY CHANGING-- HALFWAY!
--BACK INTO CURT CONNORS!
SEE WHAT I MEAN?
I'M MOSTLY HUMAN--BUT I'M STILL COVERED WITH SCALES, LIKE THE REPTILE I WAS.
JUST THE SAME, YOU'VE LOST YOUR RIGHT ARM AGAIN--
--THE ONE YOU GROW WHEN YOU BECOME A MONSTER.
AND, IF THE LIZARD CAN LOSE AN ARM, AND STILL BE WHAT HE WAS--
--THEN SO, PERHAPS, CAN SPIDER-MAN.
I FOLLOW YOUR LOGIC.
BUT-- WHAT CAUSED THE CHANGE, DOC?
DON'T YOU SEE, MAN?
IT MUST HAVE BEEN-- MORBIUS.
HE BIT ME WHEN I FELL--EVEN THRU THE SCALES ON MY NECK.
HE HAD NO TIME TO DRAW BLOOD --YET HE WEAKENED ME SOMEHOW--
--AND I BECAME-- ALMOST NORMAL.
Y'KNOW, IT SOUNDS JUST CRAZY ENOUGH TO BE--
HEY, DOC-- YOU'RE SHAKING. WHAT--?
I'M CHANGING-- BACK TO THE LIZARD AGAIN!
I KNOW IT. I FEEL IT.
9

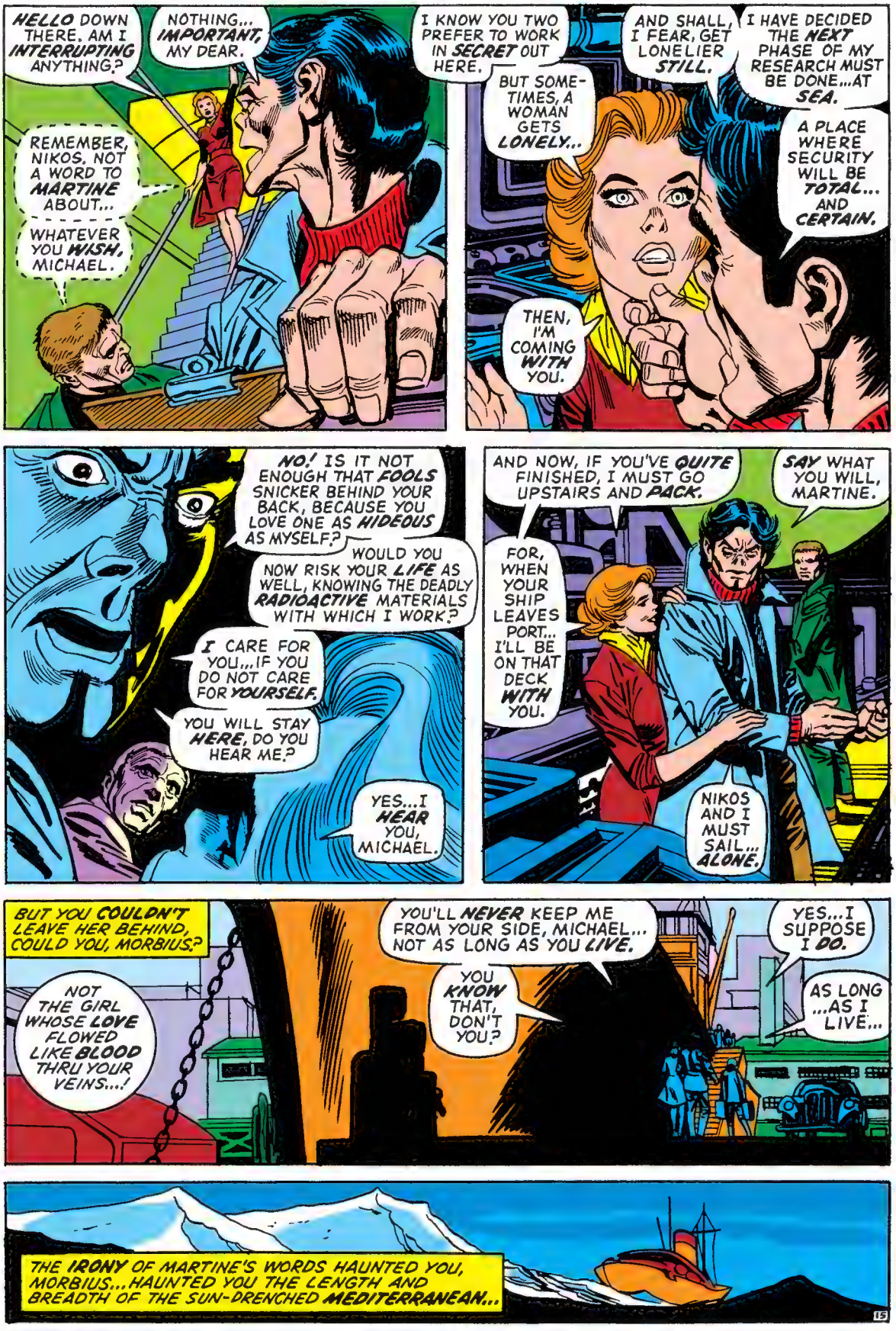

BUT, YOU'VE STILL GOT DOC CONNORS' MIND.
SO, LET'S SEE IF YOU CAN DUPLICATE WHATEVER IT WAS THAT--
DO NOT SEEK TO GIVE ORDERS TO ME, SPIDER-MAN!
AND YET-- YOU'RE RIGHT.
WE MUST FIND A CURE SOMEHOW-- FOR BOTH OUR SAKES.
IF ONLY I COULD LEAVE--TRY TO CATCH MORBIUS, BEFORE HE REALLY HARMS SOME-ONE.
YET, THERE'S SOME-THING IN CONNORS' VOICE--SOME SLIGHT HINT OF THE LIZARD'S BRAIN BACK AGAIN.
I DON'T DARE LEAVE HIM ALONE.
IF ONLY I COULD HELP YOU-- AT LEAST DO MY SHARE OF THE WORK--
BUT, MY HANDS-- THEY'RE TOO AWKWARD NOW TO HANDLE DELICATE MACHINERY-- OR TEST TUBES.
YOUR JOB IS TO TELL ME WHAT TO DO, DOC.
BESIDES, FOR ONCE HAVING SIX HANDS MIGHT JUST BE A PLUS--
--NOW THAT I'M LEARNING TO CONTROL THEM.
'COURSE, THAT HARDLY MEANS I'M BECOMING ATTACHED TO THEM.
JUST SIT BACK, WHILE THIS LITTLE GADGET SEPARATES A FEW CHEMICALS FOR US.
YES--BUT I FEEL SO HELPLESS--
--LIKE A CAGED ANIMAL.
HOURS PASS--HOURS OF FRUSTRATION AND ANGUISH--AND OF SOMETHING MORE--!
AND YET--WHY SHOULD I WANT TO BE CURT CONNORS-- EVER AGAIN?
HE GETS WILDER BY THE MINUTE.
WE MUST FIND THAT CURE. WE MUST!
IF I DON'T STUMBLE ACROSS SOME-THING SOON, I'M LIABLE TO FIND MYSELF BATTLING THE FULL-FLEDGED LIZARD AGAIN!
--WHEN I CAN BE-- THE LIZARD!?

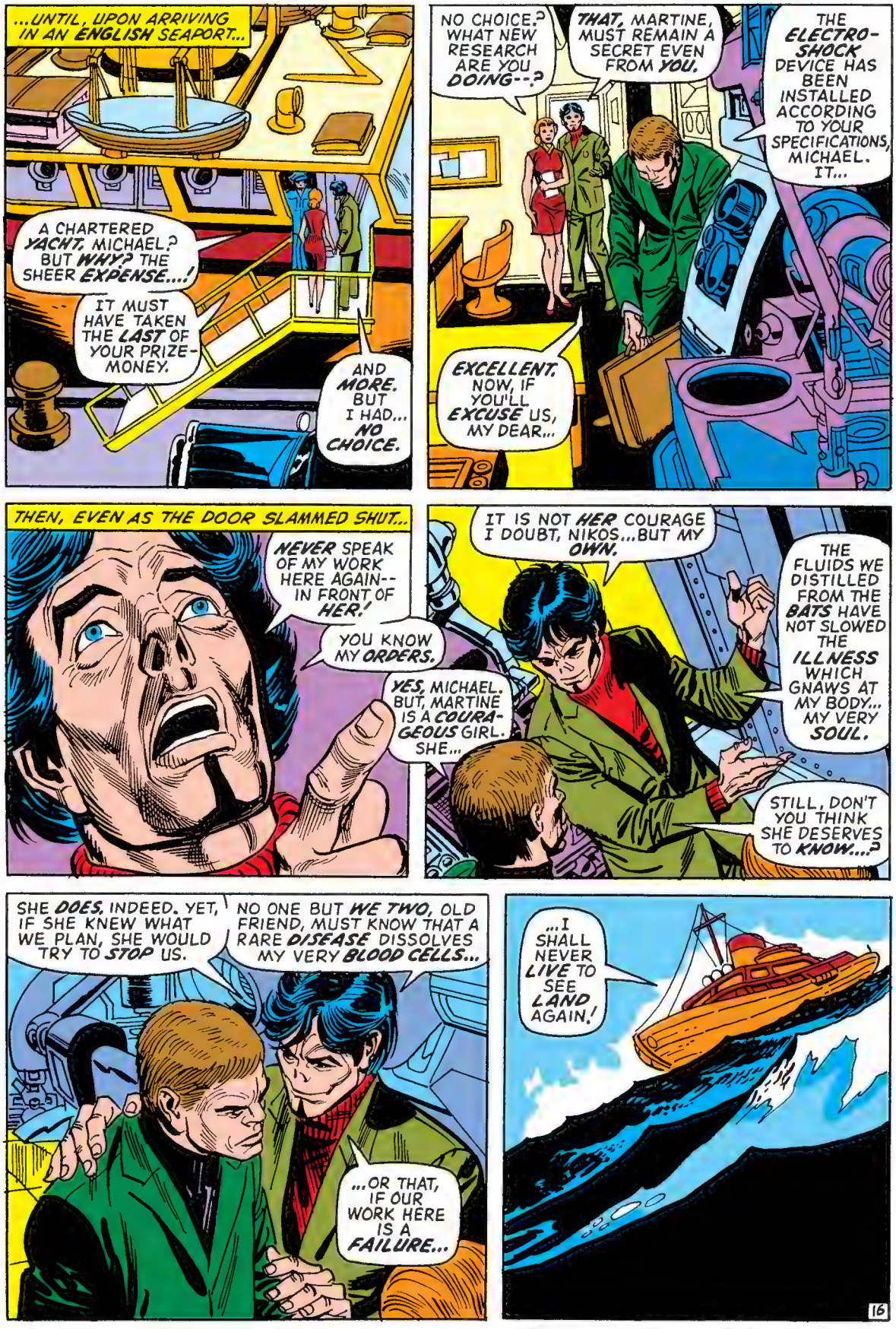
THEN, SUDDENLY, DURING A RELATIVELY LUCID MOMENT...
SPIDER-MAN! I THINK I'VE GOT OUR ANSWER.
WELL, DON'T KEEP IT A SECRET, FELLA.
THAT--VAMPIRE--DIDN'T TAKE ANYTHING OUT OF ME.
SO, HE MUST HAVE PUT SOMETHING IN.
AN ENZYME!
OF COURSE! WE SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF IT BEFORE.
AN ENZYME--SOMETHING WHICH ACTS AS A CATALYST, CAUSING CHANGES IN OTHER SUBSTANCES.
SUCH A THING, ENTERING YOUR BODY THRU HIS FANGS, MUST HAVE AFFECTED YOUR METABOLISM--
--MAKING YOU LOSE THAT ARM!
IF WE COMBINED THAT ENZYME WITH THIS SERUM YOU HAD ME MIX--
YES--THAT MUST BE IT!
THEN, WE MUST FIND HIM--AND QUICKLY.
I--I CAN'T BEAR BEING INSIDE THIS HIDEOUS FRAME--MUCH LONGER!
JUST LET ME EMPTY THE SERUM INTO THIS BOTTLE.
THEN--MORBIUS, BEWARE!
MORBIUS--MORBIUS--SOMETHING ABOUT THAT NAME--STRIKES A FAMILIAR CHORD.
IF ONLY I COULD REMEMBER--BUT I CAN'T.
STILL, I MUST GO WITH YOU. YOU COULD NEVER HANDLE HIM AND ADMINISTER THE SERUM--ALONE.
YES... I KNOW.
SO, WE'D BETTER MOVE IT. HE COULD BE HALFWAY TO TRANSYLVANIA BY NOW.
YOU KEEP RIGHT BEHIND ME, OKAY?
--LIKE A LOADED GUN--THAT MAY GO OFF AT ANY SECOND!
WHILE, IN THE PRETERNATURALLY QUIET SKIES ABOVE MANHATTAN...
THIS, THEN, IS THE CITY.
HERE I SHALL FIND THE FOOD, THE SUSTENANCE, THAT IS MINE BY RIGHT.
11


BUT NOW--THE FIRST RAYS OF DAWN DRAW NEAR.
ONCE MORE, THE DREAD SPECTRE OF REMORSE REARS ITS GAUNT HEAD.
ONCE MORE, I HEAR THE DEATH-CRIES OF THE MEN I HAVE SLAIN--WAILING LIKE SOULS LOST ON A SEA OF TORMENT.
YET, ONLY IN THE CLEAR LIGHT OF DAY DO I HEAR THOSE ANGUISHED VOICES--THAT GRIM, ACCUSING CHORUS OF THE DAMNED.
IF ONLY IT COULD BE ALWAYS NIGHT--ALWAYS NIGHT--!
BUT, IT CANNOT--AND SO, MORBIUS MUST HIDE HIS FACE FROM THE SUN WHICH SAPS HIS STRENGTH--USURPS HIS WILL.
THIS BOARDED CELLAR WILL SERVE AS WELL AS ANY--PERHAPS BETTER THAN MOST.
FOR, PERHAPS THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE I SHALL KNOW NO MEMORIES.
HERE, PERHAPS--I SHALL DREAM NO DREAMS--!
VAIN HOPE, MORBIUS--FOR, NO SOONER DO YOU CLOSE YOUR EYES, THAN THE DREAM IS THERE BEFORE YOU--AND YOU SEE ONCE MORE, OVER AND OVER--

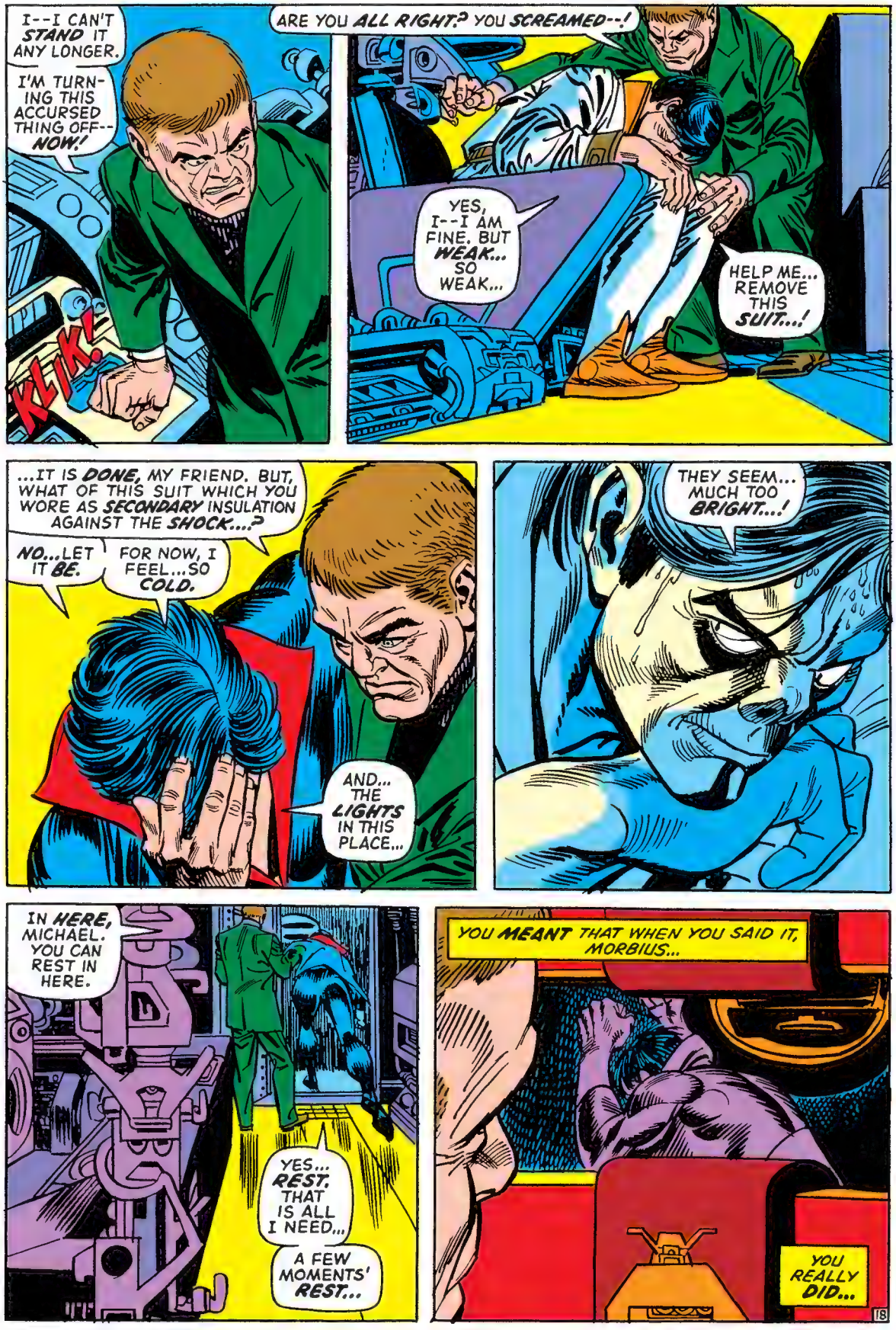

THE WAY IT BEGAN
PART TWO
NO! I DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL YOU--
NOT ANY OF YOU!
PLEASE-- FORGIVE ME, NIKOS! TELL ME YOU FORGIVE ME!
BUT, UNVOICED CRIES MERELY ECHO THRU DARK CORRIDORS OF UNRELENTING THOUGHT--

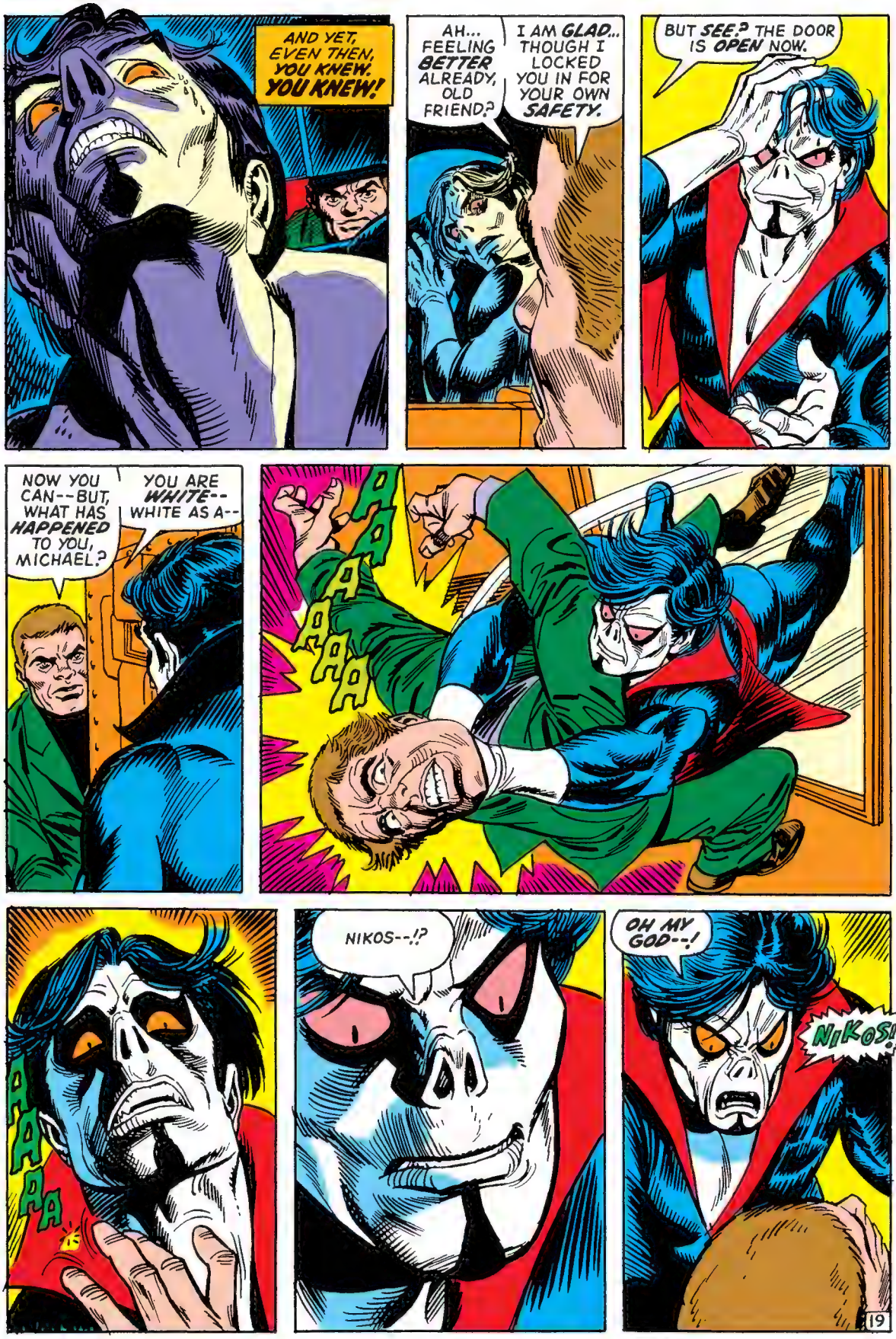
--AS THE DREAM GOES ON--!
THE DREAM OF HOW IT WAS, ONLY A FEW SHORT WEEKS AGO--WHEN YOUR WORLD WAS AS SMALL AS YOUR SEQUESTERED LABORATORY, HIDDEN HIGH IN THE HILLS OF YOUR NATIVE EUROPEAN LAND--
--AND YOUR ONLY ENEMY WAS TIME ITSELF--!
NIKOS... WILL YOU CHECK MY READING OF THESE RESULTS, PLEASE?
YOU KNOW WELL, MICHAEL, THAT I HAVE ALREADY CHECKED THEM...
--THE SIGHT OF MICHAEL MORBIUS, WINNER OF THE CONVETED NOBEL PRIZE, PINNING HIS HOPES AND DREAMS AND FEARS--
...AND THAT THEY GIVE NO MORE CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM THAN THOSE WE HAVE SEEN BEFORE.
MUST YOU CONTINUE TO TORTURE YOURSELF, WITH VISIONS OF A FALSE HOPE?
TO LIVE IS TO HOPE, MY FRIEND.
TO ABANDON HOPE... IS TO BE ALREADY DEAD.
BUT, YOUR DEMEANOR IS MUCH TOO GRIM, NIKOS. DO YOU NOT RECOGNIZE A COSMIC JEST WHEN YOU BEHOLD ONE?
IS IT NOT AMUSING--?
--TO A VAMPIRE BAT??
14


HELLO DOWN THERE. AM I INTERRUPTING ANYTHING?
NOTHING... IMPORTANT, MY DEAR.
REMEMBER, NIKOS, NOT A WORD TO MARTINE ABOUT...
WHATEVER YOU WISH, MICHAEL.
I KNOW YOU TWO PREFER TO WORK IN SECRET OUT HERE.
BUT SOMETIMES, A WOMAN GETS LONELY...
AND SHALL, I FEAR, GET LONELIER STILL.
I HAVE DECIDED THE NEXT PHASE OF MY RESEARCH MUST BE DONE...AT SEA.
A PLACE WHERE SECURITY WILL BE TOTAL... AND CERTAIN.
THEN, I'M COMING WITH YOU.
NO! IS IT NOT ENOUGH THAT FOOLS SNICKER BEHIND YOUR BACK, BECAUSE YOU LOVE ONE AS HIDEOUS AS MYSELF?
WOULD YOU NOW RISK YOUR LIFE AS WELL, KNOWING THE DEADLY RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS WITH WHICH I WORK?
I CARE FOR YOU...IF YOU DO NOT CARE FOR YOURSELF.
YOU WILL STAY HERE, DO YOU HEAR ME?
YES...I HEAR YOU, MICHAEL.
AND NOW, IF YOU'VE QUITE FINISHED, I MUST GO UPSTAIRS AND PACK.
SAY WHAT YOU WILL, MARTINE.
FOR, WHEN YOUR SHIP LEAVES PORT... I'LL BE ON THAT DECK WITH YOU.
NIKOS AND I MUST SAIL... ALONE.
BUT YOU COULDN'T LEAVE HER BEHIND, COULD YOU, MORBIUS?
NOT THE GIRL WHOSE LOVE FLOWED LIKE BLOOD THRU YOUR VEINS...!
YOU'LL NEVER KEEP ME FROM YOUR SIDE, MICHAEL... NOT AS LONG AS YOU LIVE.
YOU KNOW THAT, DON'T YOU?
YES...I SUPPOSE I DO.
AS LONG ...AS I LIVE...
THE IRONY OF MARTINE'S WORDS HAUNTED YOU, MORBIUS...HAUNTED YOU THE LENGTH AND BREADTH OF THE SUN-DRENCHED MEDITERRANEAN...

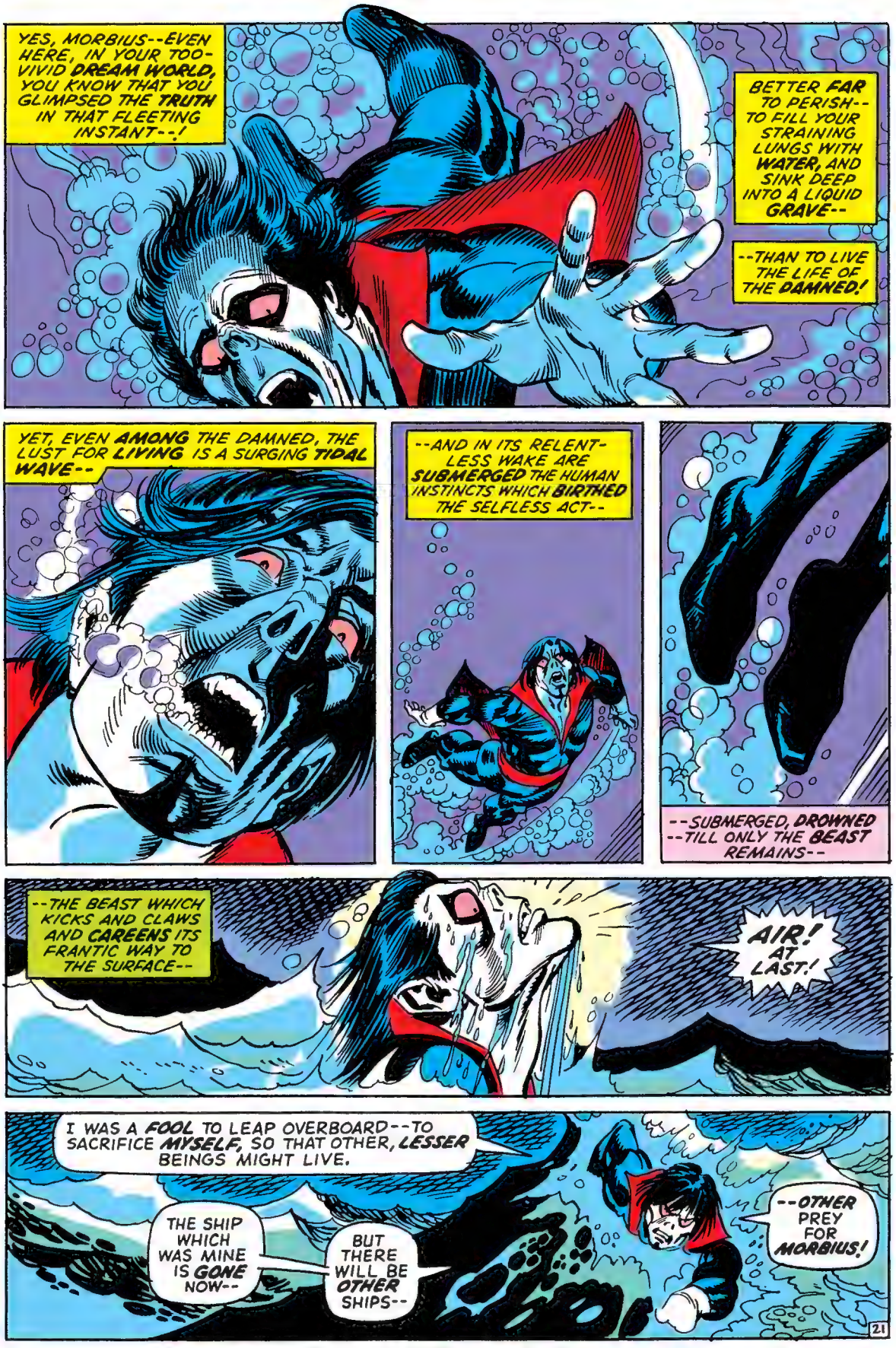

...UNTIL, UPON ARRIVING IN AN ENGLISH SEAPORT...
A CHARTERED YACHT, MICHAEL? BUT WHY? THE SHEER EXPENSE...!
IT MUST HAVE TAKEN THE LAST OF YOUR PRIZE-MONEY.
AND MORE. BUT I HAD... NO CHOICE.
NO CHOICE? WHAT NEW RESEARCH ARE YOU DOING--?
THAT, MARTINE, MUST REMAIN A SECRET EVEN FROM YOU.
THE ELECTRO-SHOCK DEVICE HAS BEEN INSTALLED ACCORDING TO YOUR SPECIFICATIONS, MICHAEL. IT...
EXCELLENT. NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE US, MY DEAR...
THEN, EVEN AS THE DOOR SLAMMED SHUT...
NEVER SPEAK OF MY WORK HERE AGAIN--IN FRONT OF HER!
YOU KNOW MY ORDERS.
YES, MICHAEL. BUT, MARTINE IS A COURAGEOUS GIRL. SHE...
IT IS NOT HER COURAGE I DOUBT, NIKOS...BUT MY OWN.
THE FLUIDS WE DISTILLED FROM THE BATS HAVE NOT SLOWED THE ILLNESS WHICH GNAWS AT MY BODY... MY VERY SOUL.
STILL, DON'T YOU THINK SHE DESERVES TO KNOW...?
SHE DOES, INDEED. YET, IF SHE KNEW WHAT WE PLAN, SHE WOULD TRY TO STOP US.
NO ONE BUT WE TWO, OLD FRIEND, MUST KNOW THAT A RARE DISEASE DISSOLVES MY VERY BLOOD CELLS...
...OR THAT, IF OUR WORK HERE IS A FAILURE...
...I SHALL NEVER LIVE TO SEE LAND AGAIN!

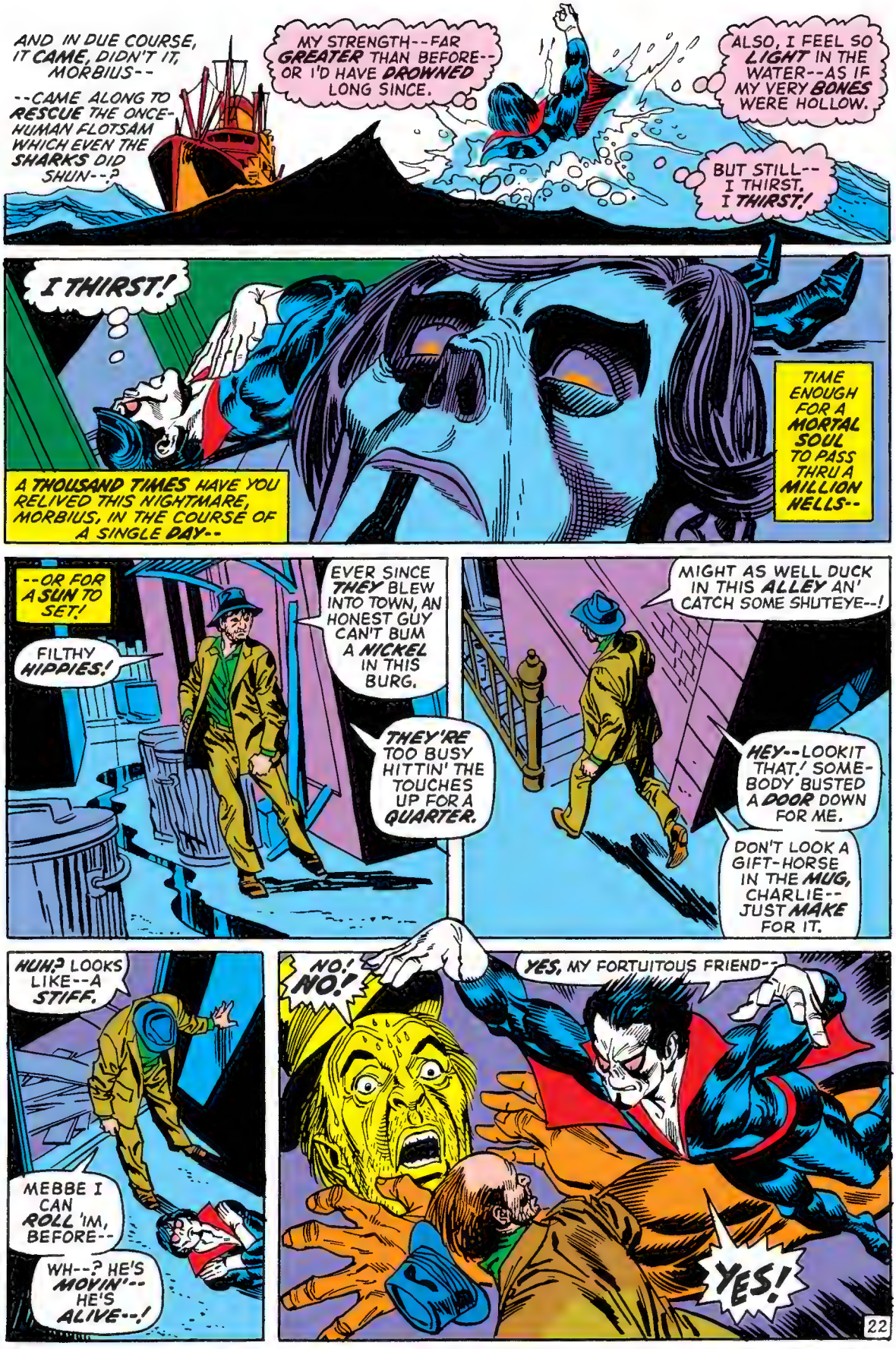
HOW HARD IT WAS, MORBIUS, THAT NIGHT...THAT FINAL NIGHT...WITH HER....!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME, MARTINE, IF I LEAVE YOU EARLY THIS EVENING.
THERE ARE ROUTINE MATTERS I MUST CHECK IN THE LABORATORY BELOW.
OF COURSE. I UNDERSTAND, MY LOVE.
BUT, DO NOT WORK TOO LONG. YOU SEEM...SO PALE.
DOES SHE SUSPECT, MICHAEL?
I... THINK NOT.
YET, WE MUST HURRY. MY TIME GROWS SHORT.
UNLESS THIS SHOCK-TREATMENT SUCCEEDS... AGAINST ALL HOPE, ALL ODDS...
...I'LL MEASURE OUT MY LIFE IN DAYS...PERHAPS HOURS!
I... KNOW.
BUT, ELECTRICAL CREATION OF BLOOD-CELLS IS SOMETHING NEVER BEFORE ATTEMPTED...LET ALONE ACHIEVED.
IF ONLY WE HAD TIME TO GAUGE ALL POSSIBLE RESULTS...ALL POTENTIAL SIDE-EFFECTS...
AND YET, AS YOU SAY... WE HAVE NO CHOICE.
FOR, WHAT SIDE-EFFECT COULD POSSIBLY BE WORSE THAN--DEATH?
DID YOU SENSE IT THEN, MORBIUS--IN THAT MOMENT? DID YOU GLIMPSE THE UN-SPEAKABLE ANSWER TO NIKOS' QUESTION...
ARRRRRRR
...IN THAT SINGLE, SEARING INSTANT WHEN TIME AND SPACE WERE SWALLOWED IN THE GAPING MAW OF PAIN--?
17


I--I CAN'T STAND IT ANY LONGER.
I'M TURNING THIS ACCURSED THING OFF--NOW!
KLIK!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU SCREAMED--!
YES, I--I AM FINE. BUT WEAK... SO WEAK...
HELP ME... REMOVE THIS SUIT...!
...IT IS DONE, MY FRIEND. BUT, WHAT OF THIS SUIT WHICH YOU WORE AS SECONDARY INSULATION AGAINST THE SHOCK...?
NO...LET IT BE.
FOR NOW, I FEEL...SO COLD.
AND... THE LIGHTS IN THIS PLACE...
THEY SEEM... MUCH TOO BRIGHT...!
IN HERE, MICHAEL. YOU CAN REST IN HERE.
YES... REST. THAT IS ALL I NEED...
A FEW MOMENTS' REST...
YOU MEANT THAT WHEN YOU SAID IT, MORBIUS...
YOU REALLY DID...

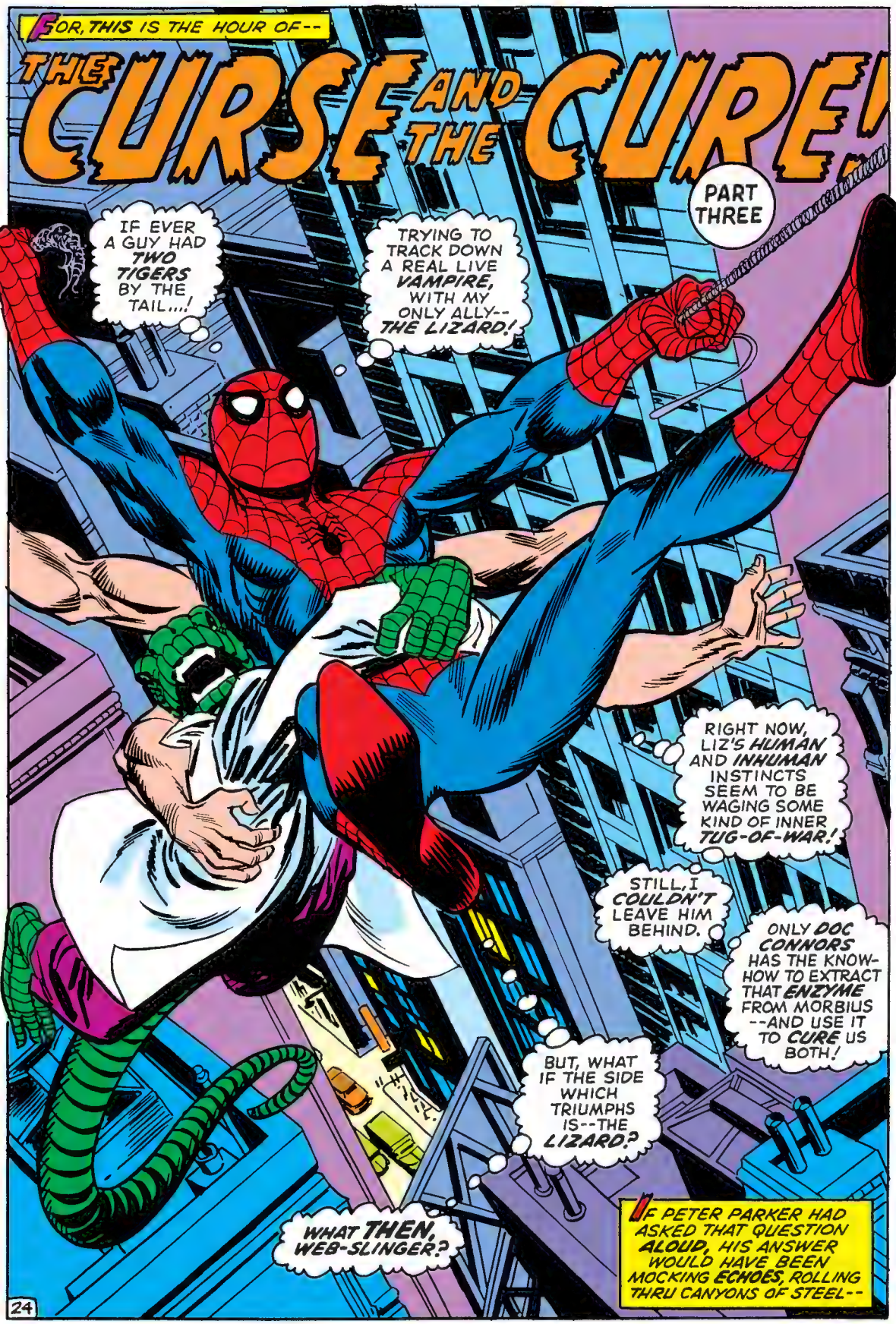

AND YET, EVEN THEN, YOU KNEW! YOU KNEW!
AH... FEELING BETTER ALREADY, OLD FRIEND?
I AM GLAD... THOUGH I LOCKED YOU IN FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY.
BUT SEE? THE DOOR IS OPEN NOW.
NOW YOU CAN--BUT, WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO YOU, MICHAEL?
YOU ARE WHITE-- WHITE AS A--
AAAAAA
AAAA
NIKOS--!?
OH MY GOD--!
NIKOS!

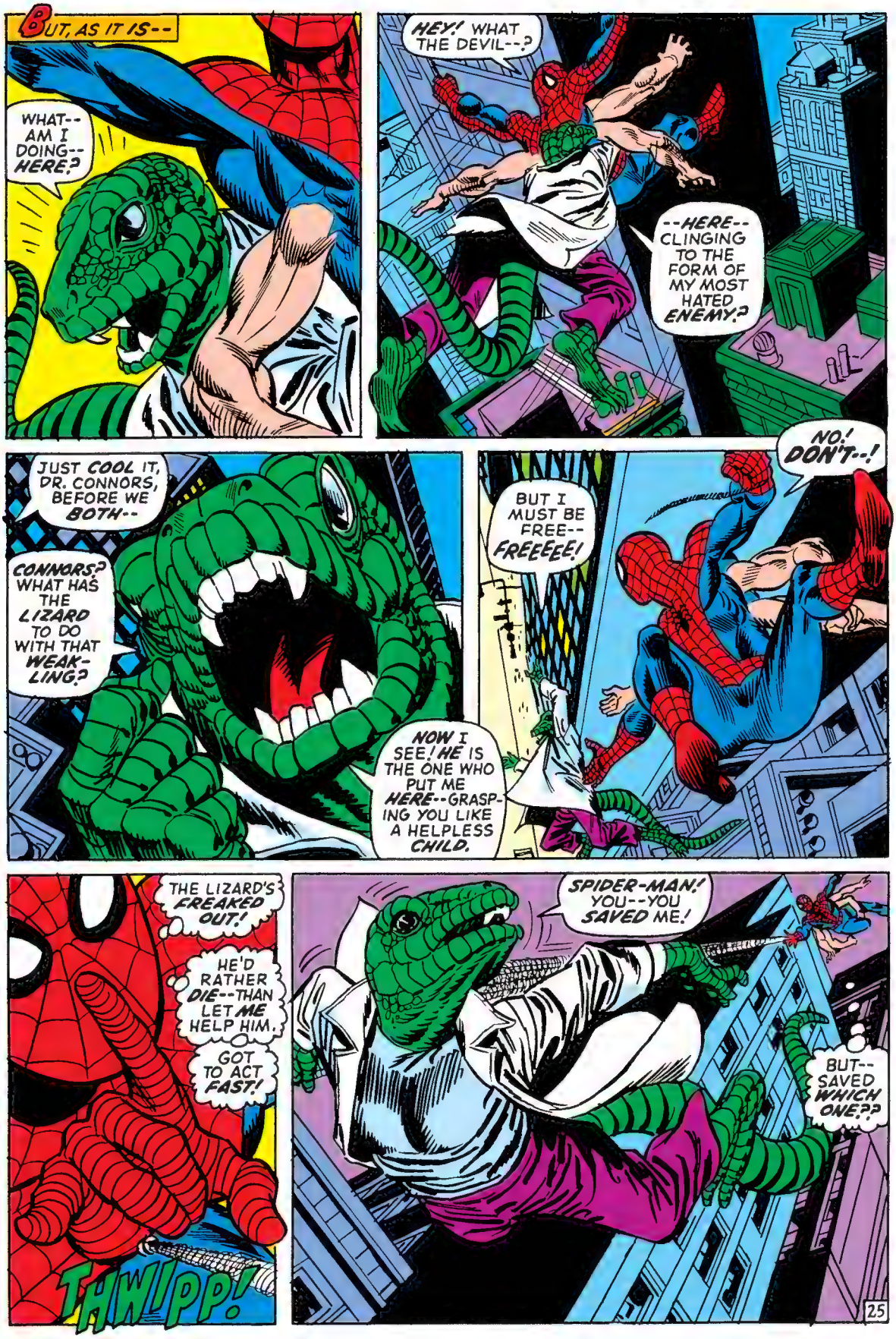
DEAD! BECAUSE YOU LOVED ME, NIKOS.
BECAUSE YOU-- CARED.
BUT--PERHAPS YOU ARE THE FORTUNATE ONE.
FOR, WHAT OF ME, NIKOS?
WHAT IS THIS THING THAT MORBIUS HAS BECOME?
THE BAT EXTRACT--THE ELECTRICAL SHOCK--ALL ACTING ON ME SOMEHOW--TURNING ME INTO--
YOU KNOW THE WORD WELL, DON'T YOU, NIKOS?
AND THE WORD IS-- VAMPIRE!
AIR! MUST HAVE AIR-- MUST THINK WHAT TO DO-- GET HELP--!
MARTINE! ASLEEP THERE-- IN THAT CABIN. SHE WILL HELP ME.
SHE IS COMPASSIONATE, WARM--
YES--WARM--RICH BLOOD COURSING THRU HER VEINS--BLOOD WHICH--
GOD FORGIVE ME--WHAT AM I THINKING OF??
NOT THAT! ANYTHING BUT THAT!
BETTER FAR TO END THIS STILLBORN MOCKERY OF LIFE.
BETTER FAR--TO DIE!


YES, MORBIUS--EVEN HERE, IN YOUR TOO-VIVID DREAM WORLD, YOU KNOW THAT YOU GLIMPSED THE TRUTH IN THAT FLEETING INSTANT--!
BETTER FAR TO PERISH--TO FILL YOUR STRAINING LUNGS WITH WATER, AND SINK DEEP INTO A LIQUID GRAVE--
--THAN TO LIVE THE LIFE OF THE DAMNED!
YET, EVEN AMONG THE DAMNED, THE LUST FOR LIVING IS A SURGING TIDAL WAVE--
--AND IN ITS RELENTLESS WAKE ARE SUBMERGED THE HUMAN INSTINCTS WHICH BIRTHED THE SELFLESS ACT--
--SUBMERGED, DROWNED --TILL ONLY THE BEAST REMAINS--
--THE BEAST WHICH KICKS AND CLAWS AND CAREENS ITS FRANTIC WAY TO THE SURFACE--
AIR! AT LAST!
I WAS A FOOL TO LEAP OVERBOARD--TO SACRIFICE MYSELF, SO THAT OTHER, LESSER BEINGS MIGHT LIVE.
THE SHIP WHICH WAS MINE IS GONE NOW--
BUT THERE WILL BE OTHER SHIPS--
--OTHER PREY FOR MORBIUS!


AND IN DUE COURSE, IT CAME, DIDN'T IT, MORBIUS--
--CAME ALONG TO RESCUE THE ONCE-HUMAN FLOTSAM WHICH EVEN THE SHARKS DID SHUN--?
MY STRENGTH--FAR GREATER THAN BEFORE--OR I'D HAVE DROWNED LONG SINCE.
ALSO, I FEEL SO LIGHT IN THE WATER--AS IF MY VERY BONES WERE HOLLOW.
BUT STILL--I THIRST. I THIRST!
I THIRST!
A THOUSAND TIMES HAVE YOU RELIVED THIS NIGHTMARE, MORBIUS, IN THE COURSE OF A SINGLE DAY--
TIME ENOUGH FOR A MORTAL SOUL TO PASS THRU A MILLION HELLS--
--OR FOR A SUN TO SET!
FILTHY HIPPIES!
EVER SINCE THEY BLEW INTO TOWN, AN HONEST GUY CAN'T BUM A NICKEL IN THIS BURG.
THEY'RE TOO BUSY HITTIN' THE TOUCHES UP FOR A QUARTER.
MIGHT AS WELL DUCK IN THIS ALLEY AN' CATCH SOME SHUTEYE--!
HEY--LOOKIT THAT! SOMEBODY BUSTED A DOOR DOWN FOR ME.
DON'T LOOK A GIFT-HORSE IN THE MUG, CHARLIE--JUST MAKE FOR IT.
HUH? LOOKS LIKE--A STIFF.
MEBBE I CAN ROLL 'IM, BEFORE--
WH--? HE'S MOVIN'--HE'S ALIVE--!
NO! NO!
YES, MY FORTUITOUS FRIEND--
YES!

YESSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS
...HOLY JOE, NOW WHAT??
IF THAT'S ANOTHER ONE'A THOSE LONG ISLAND CALLS--
RRING
YOUR TURN, SYD. I HUNG UP ON THE LAST TWO.
YEAH? TV NEWS SERVICE-- WHAT CAN I--?
I KNOW, I KNOW. AND THEN HE MET UP WITH THE ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN--
--AN' THEY BOTH FLEW OFF IN THEIR FLYIN' SAUCER.
--CREEP!
IT WAS QUEENS, THIS TIME --ANOTHER WEIRDO!
SWEARS HE SAW A PROWLER --THE USUAL HUNDRED ARMS--
BUT THIS PHANTOM HAD A TAIL, TO BOOT.
SAY, SYD-- YOU DON'T SUPPOSE--
COULD THIS BE RELATED TO THAT BOWERY BUM THEY FOUND DEAD A LITTLE WHILE AGO?
WISE UP, LEO. THAT SLOB KICKED IT IN MANHATTAN.
THESE CALLS BEEN COMIN' IN FROM THE ISLAND--NOW JUST ACROSS THE RIVER FROM QUEENS.
DUNNO WHAT KIND'A SPOOK THEY'RE SEEIN' OUT THERE--
BUT IT COULDN'T HAVE NOTHIN' TO DO WITH THAT BUM.
NO--I GUESS NOT--!
HMM...TOO BAD YOU HEDGED YOUR BETS, LEO...
...'CAUSE YOU WERE RIGHT THE FIRST TIME...!


FOR, THIS IS THE HOUR OF--
THE CURSE AND THE CURE!
PART THREE
IF EVER A GUY HAD TWO TIGERS BY THE TAIL...!
TRYING TO TRACK DOWN A REAL LIVE VAMPIRE, WITH MY ONLY ALLY-- THE LIZARD!
RIGHT NOW, LIZ'S HUMAN AND INHUMAN INSTINCTS SEEM TO BE WAGING SOME KIND OF INNER TUG-OF-WAR!
STILL, I COULDN'T LEAVE HIM BEHIND.
ONLY DOC CONNORS HAS THE KNOW-HOW TO EXTRACT THAT ENZYME FROM MORBIUS --AND USE IT TO CURE US BOTH!
BUT, WHAT IF THE SIDE WHICH TRIUMPHS IS--THE LIZARD?
WHAT THEN, WEB-SLINGER?
IF PETER PARKER HAD ASKED THAT QUESTION ALOUD, HIS ANSWER WOULD HAVE BEEN MOCKING ECHOES, ROLLING THRU CANYONS OF STEEL--


BUT, AS IT IS--
WHAT-- AM I DOING-- HERE?
HEY! WHAT THE DEVIL--?
--HERE-- CLINGING TO THE FORM OF MY MOST HATED ENEMY?
JUST COOL IT, DR. CONNORS, BEFORE WE BOTH--
CONNORS? WHAT HAS THE LIZARD TO DO WITH THAT WEAK-LING?
NOW I SEE! HE IS THE ONE WHO PUT ME HERE--GRASPING YOU LIKE A HELPLESS CHILD.
BUT I MUST BE FREE-- FREEEEE!
NO! DON'T--!
THE LIZARD'S FREAKED OUT!
HE'D RATHER DIE--THAN LET ME HELP HIM.
GOT TO ACT FAST!
THWIPP!
SPIDER-MAN! YOU--YOU SAVED ME!
BUT-- SAVED WHICH ONE??
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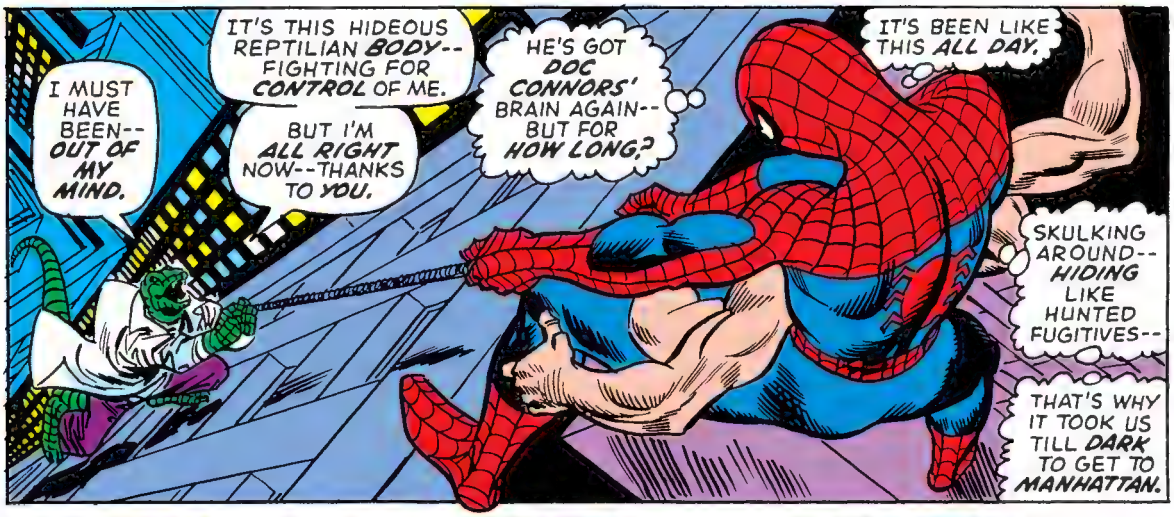
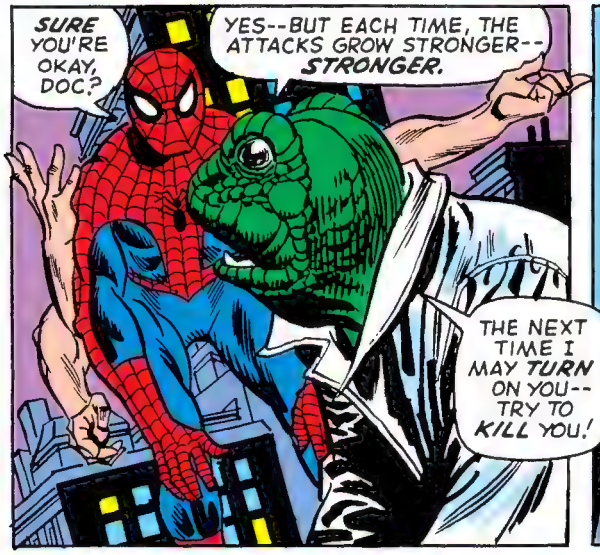
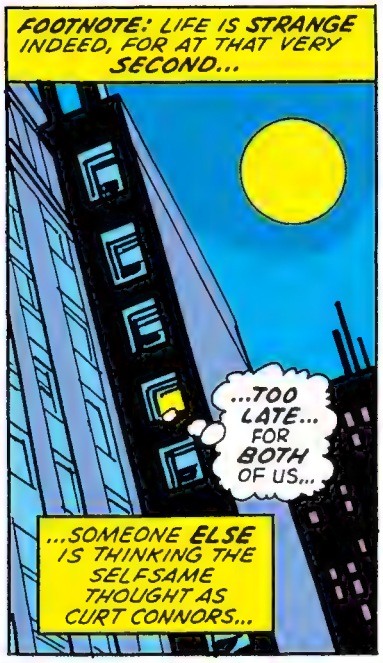
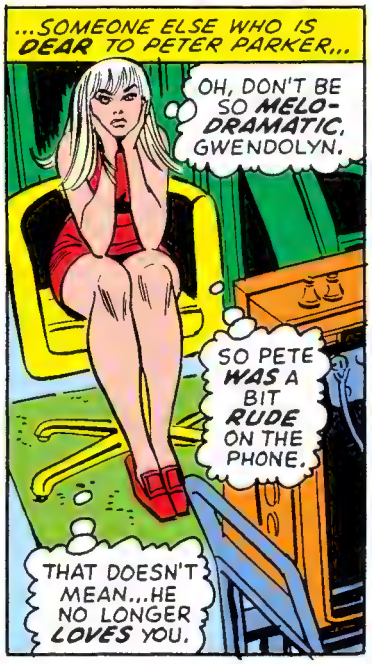

I MUST HAVE BEEN-- OUT OF MY MIND.
IT'S THIS HIDEOUS REPTILIAN BODY-- FIGHTING FOR CONTROL OF ME.
BUT I'M ALL RIGHT NOW--THANKS TO YOU.
HE'S GOT DOC CONNORS' BRAIN AGAIN-- BUT FOR HOW LONG?
IT'S BEEN LIKE THIS ALL DAY.
SKULKING AROUND-- HIDING LIKE HUNTED FUGITIVES--
THAT'S WHY IT TOOK US TILL DARK TO GET TO MANHATTAN.

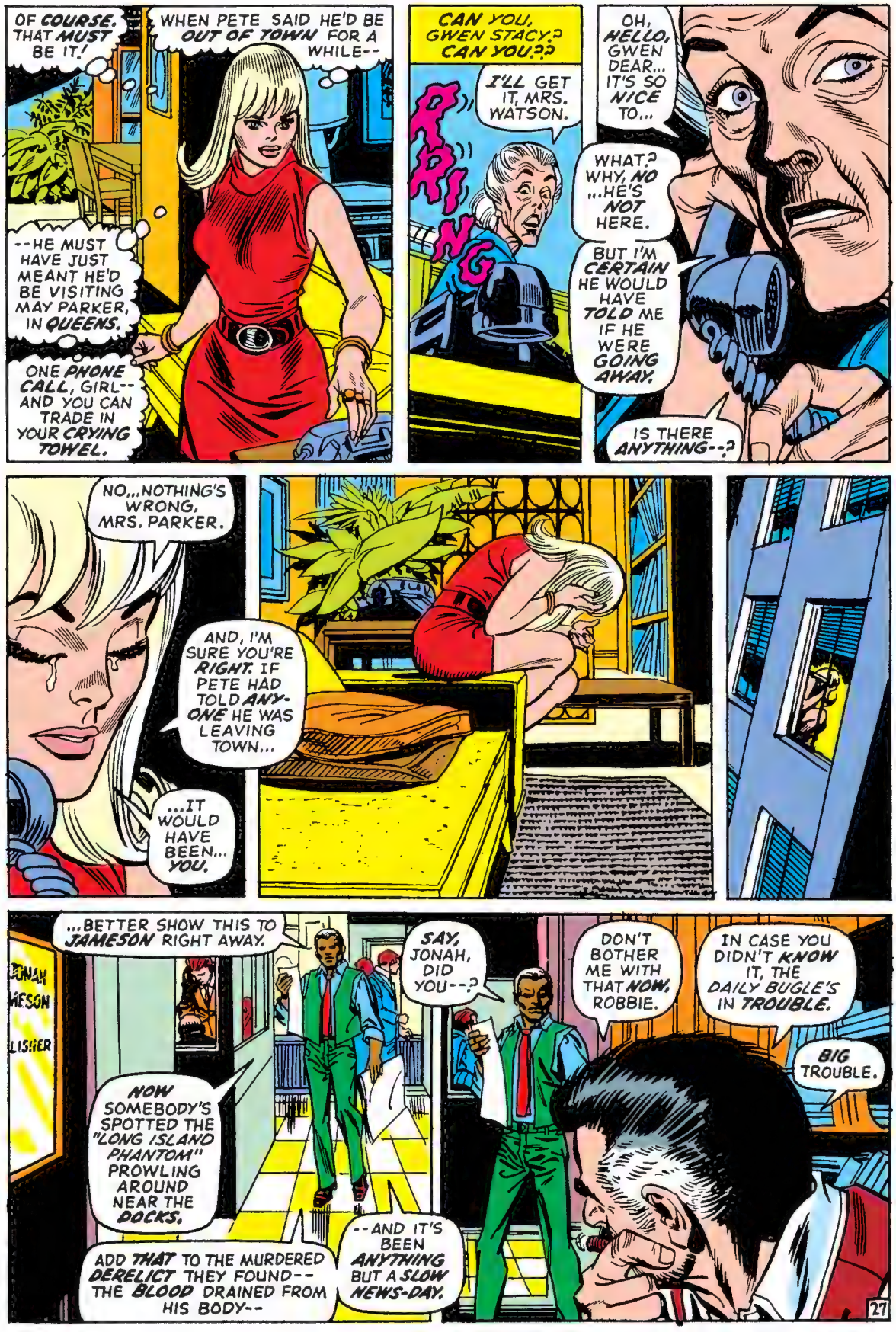

SURE YOU'RE OKAY, DOC?
YES--BUT EACH TIME, THE ATTACKS GROW STRONGER-- STRONGER.
THE NEXT TIME I MAY TURN ON YOU-- TRY TO KILL YOU!

LET'S--GET GOING. WE'VE GOT TO FIND THAT MYSTERY-MAN BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE--
--TOO LATE FOR BOTH OF US!


FOOTNOTE: LIFE IS STRANGE INDEED, FOR AT THAT VERY SECOND...
...TOO LATE... FOR BOTH OF US...
...SOMEONE ELSE IS THINKING THE SELFSAME THOUGHT AS CURT CONNORS...


...SOMEONE ELSE WHO IS DEAR TO PETER PARKER...
OH, DON'T BE SO MELO-DRAMATIC, GWENDOLYN.
SO PETE WAS A BIT RUDE ON THE PHONE.
THAT DOESN'T MEAN...HE NO LONGER LOVES YOU.

EVERYBODY HAS A BAD DAY NOW AND THEN. THAT WAS HIS.
BUT THEN-- WHY HASN'T HE CALLED BACK, THESE PAST TWO DAYS?
AND, EITHER HE'S NOT AT HIS APART-MENT...OR ELSE HE'S JUST NOT ANSWERING WHEN I CALL.
I WONDER IF HIS AUNT MAY...


OF COURSE. THAT MUST BE IT.
WHEN PETE SAID HE'D BE OUT OF TOWN FOR A WHILE--
--HE MUST HAVE JUST MEANT HE'D BE VISITING MAY PARKER, IN QUEENS.
ONE PHONE CALL, GIRL-- AND YOU CAN TRADE IN YOUR CRYING TOWEL.
CAN YOU, GWEN STACY? CAN YOU??
RING
I'LL GET IT, MRS. WATSON.
OH, HELLO, GWEN DEAR... IT'S SO NICE TO...
WHAT? WHY, NO ...HE'S NOT HERE.
BUT I'M CERTAIN HE WOULD HAVE TOLD ME IF HE WERE GOING AWAY.
IS THERE ANYTHING--?
NO,,,NOTHING'S WRONG, MRS. PARKER.
AND, I'M SURE YOU'RE RIGHT. IF PETE HAD TOLD ANY-ONE HE WAS LEAVING TOWN...
...IT WOULD HAVE BEEN... YOU.
...BETTER SHOW THIS TO JAMESON RIGHT AWAY.
JONAH
JAMESON
PUBLISHER
NOW SOMEBODY'S SPOTTED THE "LONG ISLAND PHANTOM" PROWLING AROUND NEAR THE DOCKS.
ADD THAT TO THE MURDERED DERELICT THEY FOUND-- THE BLOOD DRAINED FROM HIS BODY--
SAY, JONAH, DID YOU--?
--AND IT'S BEEN ANYTHING BUT A SLOW NEWS-DAY.
DON'T BOTHER ME WITH THAT NOW, ROBBIE.
IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW IT, THE DAILY BUGLE'S IN TROUBLE.
BIG TROUBLE.
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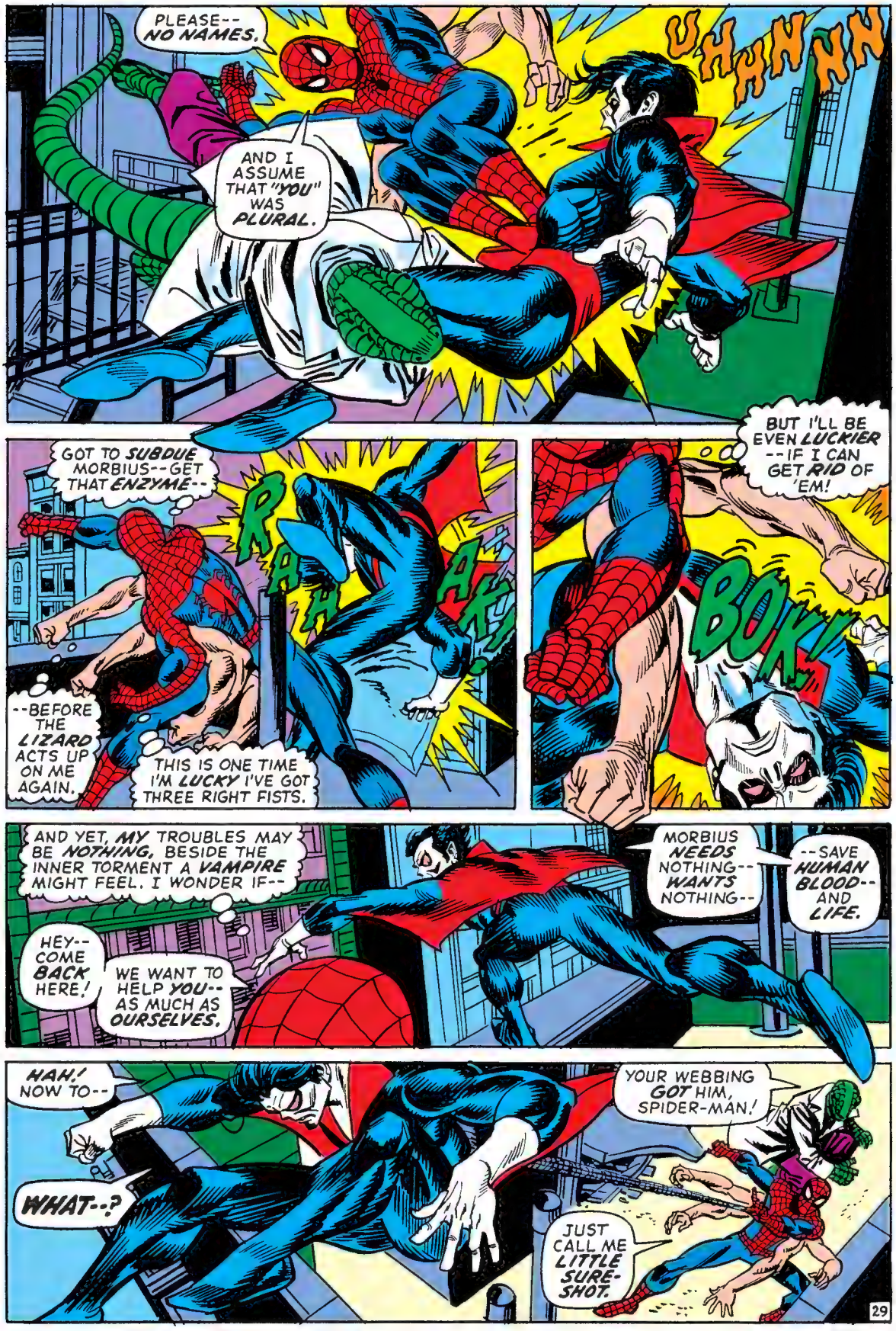
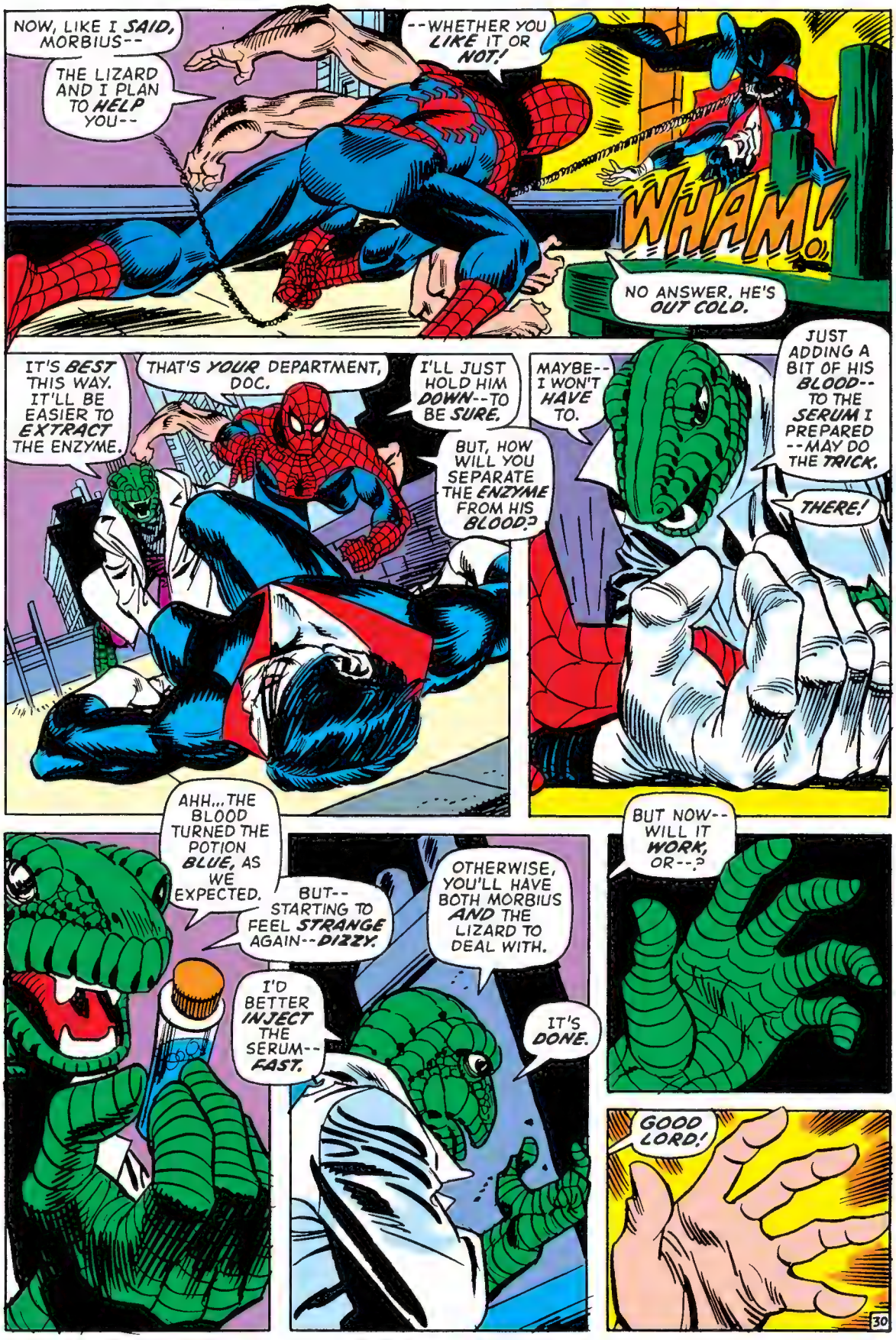
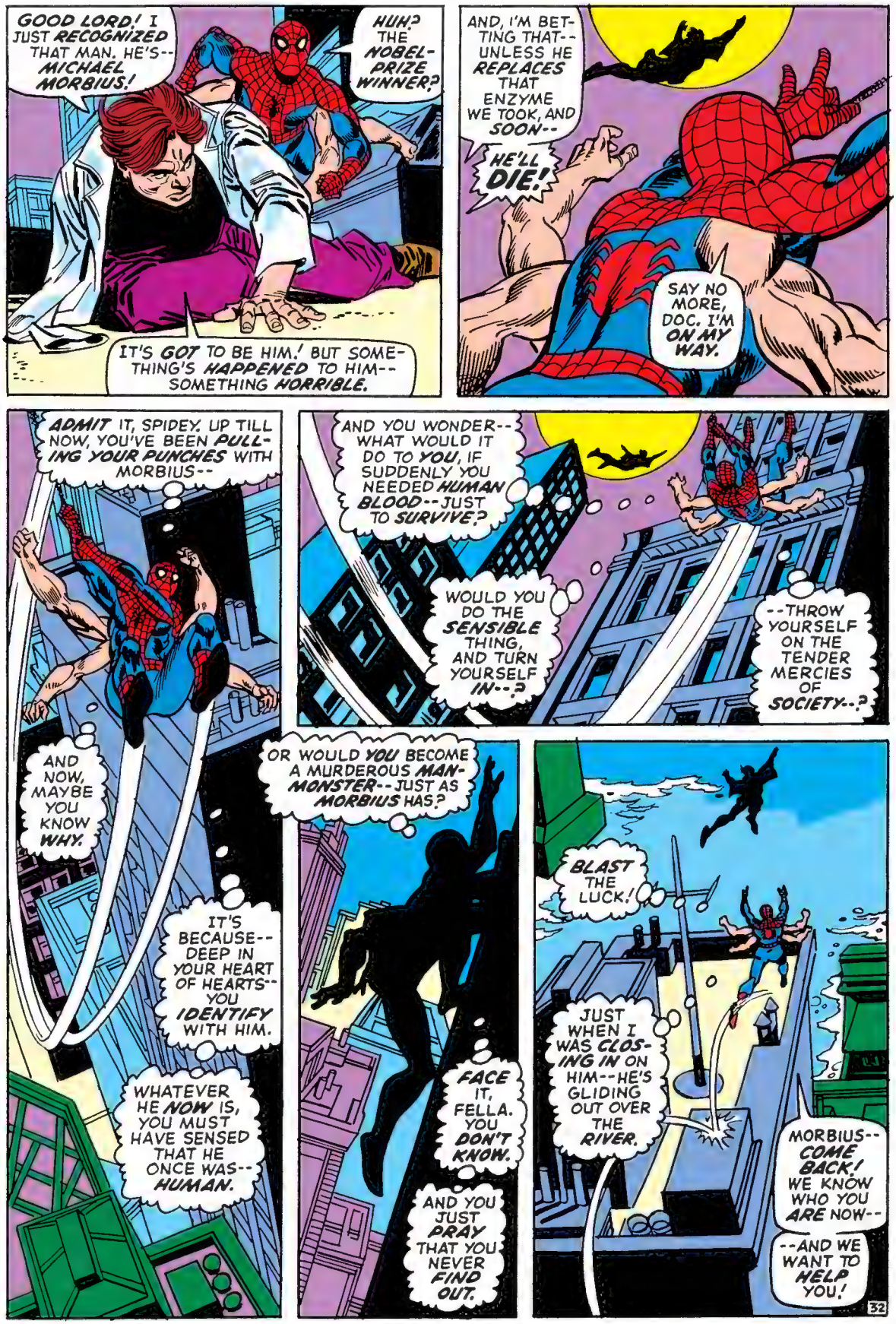
IF YOU MEAN THAT RECENT CIRCULATION DROP--
I MEAN THAT...
PLUS THOSE HEFTY PAY BOOSTS I HAD TO GIVE OUT LAST MONTH TO STAVE OFF A STRIKE...
PLUS THE FACT THAT OUR BIGGEST ADVERTISERS SEEM TO BE SWITCHING TO TV SPOTS.
I'M TELLING YOU, MISTER--IF SOMETHING DOESN'T HAPPEN FAST--
--THERE WON'T BE A DAILY BUGLE!
BUT NOW, WHILE YOU AND J. JONAH JAMESON PONDER THAT POSSIBILITY...
FREE!
...FUN CITY FACES CIRCUMSTANCES FAR MORE DEADLY....!
FREE AT LAST OF THE NUMBING DOUBTS--THE FLACCID REMORSE WHICH HAUNTS ME IN THE HEAT OF THE DAY.
THIS IS MY HOUR--THAT TIME WHEN DARKNESS WRAPS THE CITY LIKE A SHROUD--
--WHEN EACH SHADOW CAN COME TO SUDDEN, SNARLING LIFE--
--AND WHEN MORBIUS CAN FEAST!
THAT'S A RIGHT PRETTY SPEECH YOU GOT THERE, MORB--
--BUT I'M AFRAID YOU JUST WENT ON A DIET!
YOU!


PLEASE-- NO NAMES.
AND I ASSUME THAT "YOU" WAS PLURAL.
UHHNNN
GOT TO SUBDUE MORBIUS--GET THAT ENZYME--
--BEFORE THE LIZARD ACTS UP ON ME AGAIN.
THIS IS ONE TIME I'M LUCKY I'VE GOT THREE RIGHT FISTS.
RAH
AK!
BUT I'LL BE EVEN LUCKIER --IF I CAN GET RID OF 'EM!
BOK!
AND YET, MY TROUBLES MAY BE NOTHING, BESIDE THE INNER TORMENT A VAMPIRE MIGHT FEEL. I WONDER IF--
HEY-- COME BACK HERE!
WE WANT TO HELP YOU-- AS MUCH AS OURSELVES.
MORBIUS NEEDS NOTHING-- WANTS NOTHING--
--SAVE HUMAN BLOOD-- AND LIFE.
HAH! NOW TO--
WHAT--?
YOUR WEBBING GOT HIM, SPIDER-MAN!
JUST CALL ME LITTLE SURE-SHOT.


NOW, LIKE I SAID, MORBIUS--
THE LIZARD AND I PLAN TO HELP YOU--
--WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT!
WHAM!
NO ANSWER. HE'S OUT COLD.
IT'S BEST THIS WAY. IT'LL BE EASIER TO EXTRACT THE ENZYME.
THAT'S YOUR DEPARTMENT, DOC.
I'LL JUST HOLD HIM DOWN--TO BE SURE.
BUT, HOW WILL YOU SEPARATE THE ENZYME FROM HIS BLOOD?
MAYBE--I WON'T HAVE TO.
JUST ADDING A BIT OF HIS BLOOD--TO THE SERUM I PREPARED--MAY DO THE TRICK.
THERE!
AHH... THE BLOOD TURNED THE POTION BLUE, AS WE EXPECTED.
BUT--STARTING TO FEEL STRANGE AGAIN--DIZZY.
I'D BETTER INJECT THE SERUM--FAST.
OTHERWISE, YOU'LL HAVE BOTH MORBIUS AND THE LIZARD TO DEAL WITH.
IT'S DONE.
BUT NOW--WILL IT WORK, OR--?
GOOD LORD!

I NEVER DREAMED IT COULD CHANGE ME--SO QUICKLY.
I'M-- COMPLETELY HUMAN AGAIN-- THANK GOD!
DON'T THINK I'M GHOULISH, DOC-- BUT I NOTICE YOUR EXTRA ARM HAS VANISHED, TOO.
'COURSE, THERE'S NO WAY TO BE SURE THE SAME THING WILL HAPPEN TO MY SURPLUS LIMBS--OR WHAT SIDE-EFFECTS THERE MIGHT BE--
BUT, THERE COMES A TIME WHEN YOU'VE GOTTA TAKE A CHANCE--AND THAT TIME IS--
NOW!
KAKK
I HAVE LAIN SILENT-- CONSERVING MY POWER-- LONG ENOUGH.
STOP! WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO--?
WHAT IS IN THAT VIAL-- IS MINE.
MINE. DO YOU HEAR ME?
AND I MEAN TO HAVE IT!
SPIDER-MAN! HE--HE'S GOT THE SERUM.
IF HE DESTROYS IT--AND THEN ESCAPES--
--YOU MAY NEVER BE CURED!
DESTROY IT? YOU WHIMPERING FOOL!
I MEAN TO-- DRINK IT.


GOOD LORD! I JUST RECOGNIZED THAT MAN. HE'S--MICHAEL MORBIUS!
HUH? THE NOBEL-PRIZE WINNER?
IT'S GOT TO BE HIM! BUT SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO HIM--SOMETHING HORRIBLE.
AND, I'M BETTING THAT--UNLESS HE REPLACES THAT ENZYME WE TOOK, AND SOON--
HE'LL DIE!
SAY NO MORE, DOC. I'M ON MY WAY.
ADMIT IT, SPIDEY. UP TILL NOW, YOU'VE BEEN PULLING YOUR PUNCHES WITH MORBIUS--
AND NOW, MAYBE YOU KNOW WHY.
IT'S BECAUSE--DEEP IN YOUR HEART OF HEARTS--YOU IDENTIFY WITH HIM.
WHATEVER HE NOW IS, YOU MUST HAVE SENSED THAT HE ONCE WAS--HUMAN.
AND YOU WONDER--WHAT WOULD IT DO TO YOU, IF SUDDENLY YOU NEEDED HUMAN BLOOD--JUST TO SURVIVE?
WOULD YOU DO THE SENSIBLE THING, AND TURN YOURSELF IN--?
--THROW YOURSELF ON THE TENDER MERCIES OF SOCIETY--?
OR WOULD YOU BECOME A MURDEROUS MAN-MONSTER--JUST AS MORBIUS HAS?
FACE IT, FELLA. YOU DON'T KNOW.
AND YOU JUST PRAY THAT YOU NEVER FIND OUT.
BLAST THE LUCK!
JUST WHEN I WAS CLOSING IN ON HIM--HE'S GLIDING OUT OVER THE RIVER.
MORBIUS--COME BACK! WE KNOW WHO YOU ARE NOW--
--AND WE WANT TO HELP YOU!
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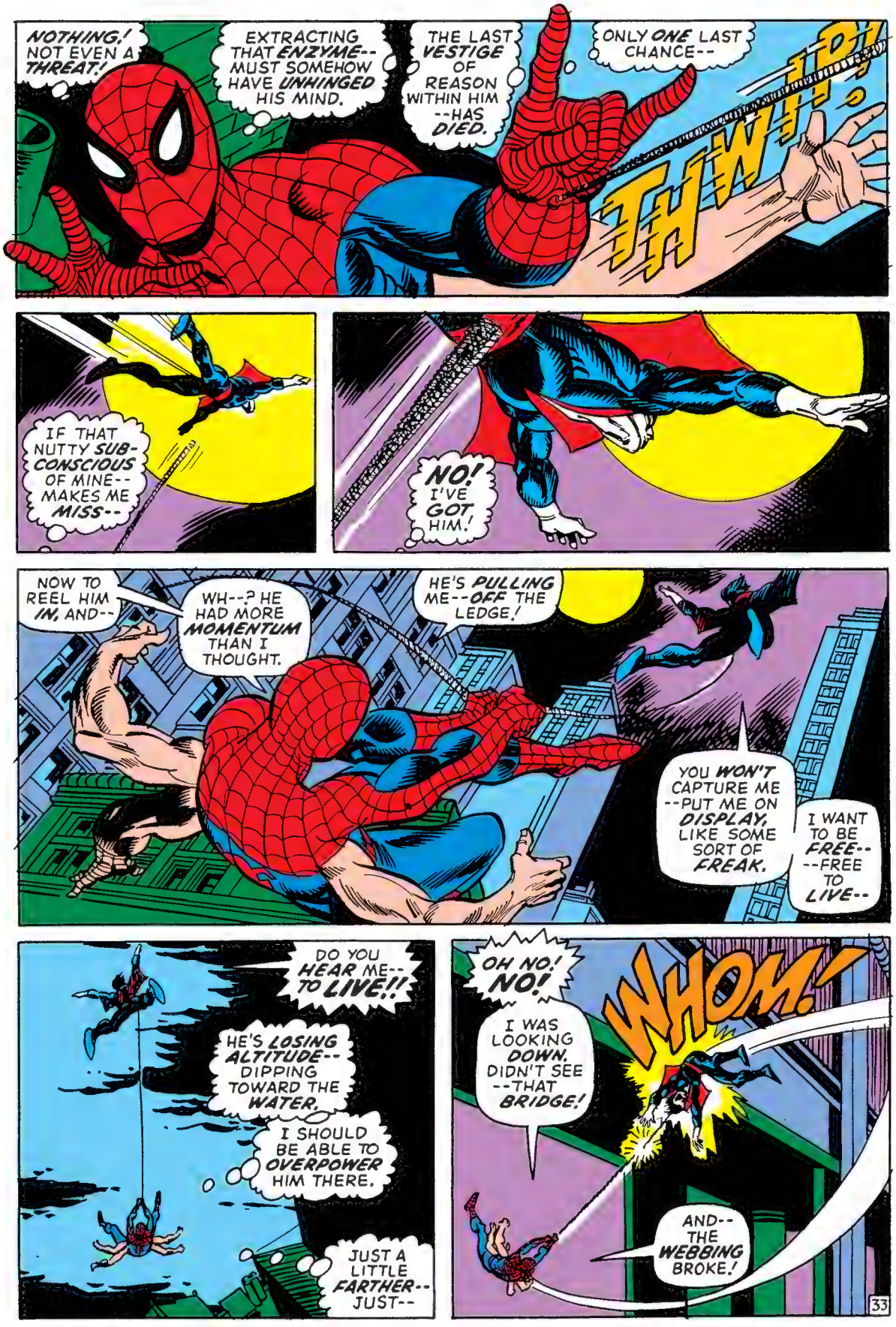
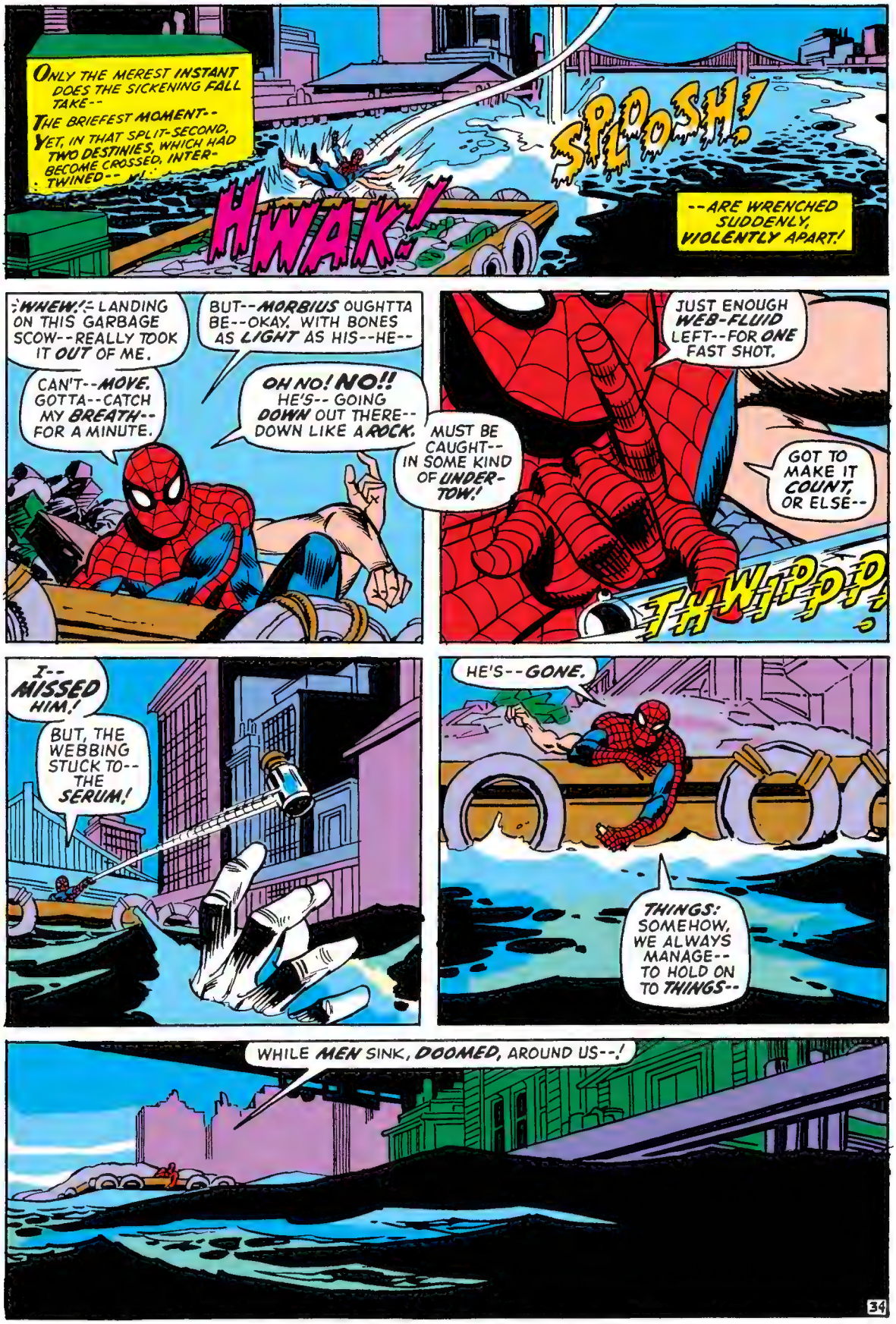
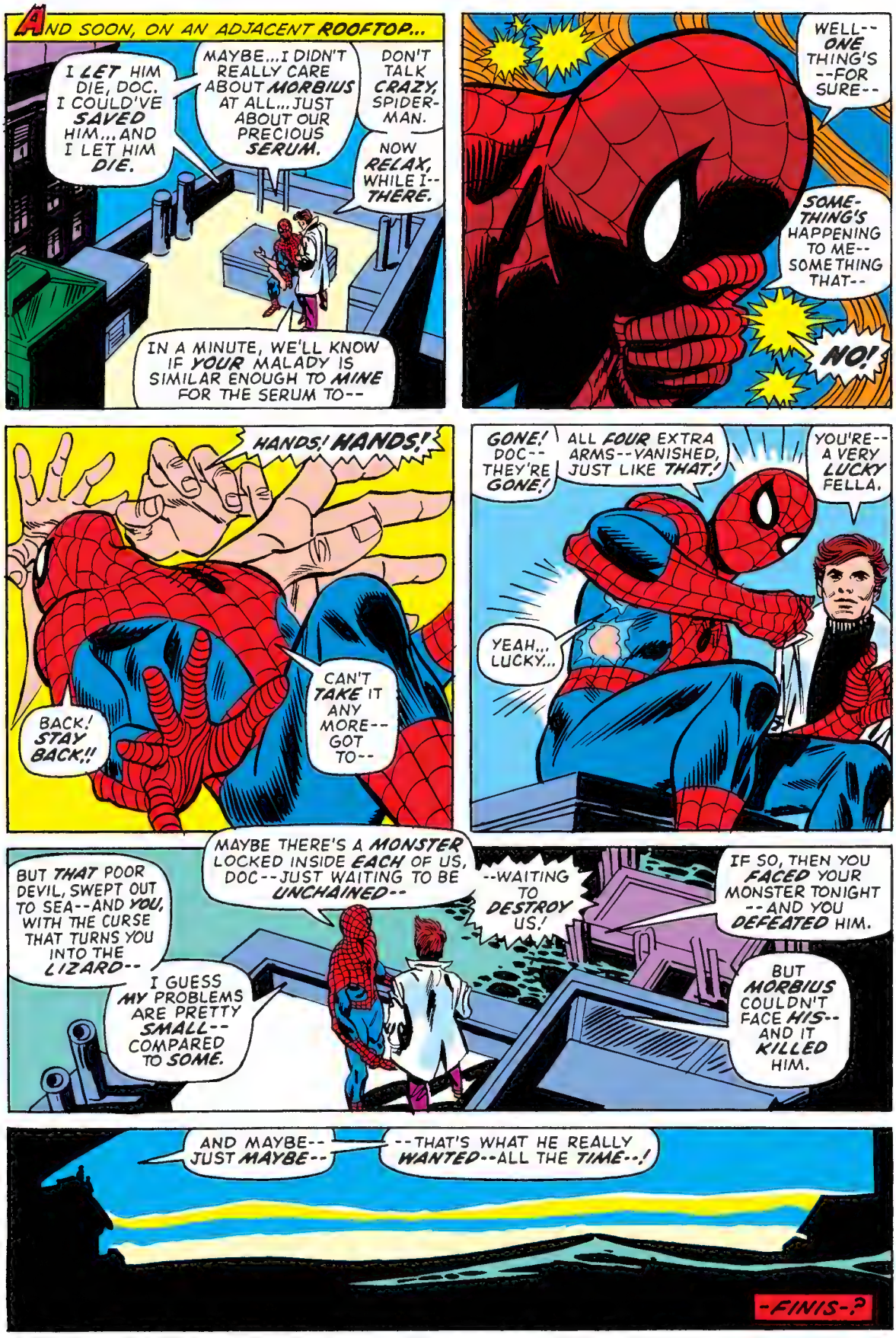

NOTHING! NOT EVEN A THREAT!
EXTRACTING THAT ENZYME-- MUST SOMEHOW HAVE UNHINGED HIS MIND.
THE LAST VESTIGE OF REASON WITHIN HIM --HAS DIED.
ONLY ONE LAST CHANCE--
THW!
IF THAT NUTTY SUB-CONSCIOUS OF MINE-- MAKES ME MISS--
NO! I'VE GOT HIM!
NOW TO REEL HIM IN, AND--
WH--? HE HAD MORE MOMENTUM THAN I THOUGHT.
HE'S PULLING ME--OFF THE LEDGE!
YOU WON'T CAPTURE ME --PUT ME ON DISPLAY, LIKE SOME SORT OF FREAK.
I WANT TO BE FREE-- --FREE TO LIVE--
DO YOU HEAR ME-- TO LIVE!!
HE'S LOSING ALTITUDE-- DIPPING TOWARD THE WATER.
I SHOULD BE ABLE TO OVERPOWER HIM THERE.
JUST A LITTLE FARTHER-- JUST--
OH NO! NO!
I WAS LOOKING DOWN. DIDN'T SEE --THAT BRIDGE!
WHOM!
AND-- THE WEBBING BROKE!
33


ONLY THE MEREST INSTANT DOES THE SICKENING FALL TAKE--
THE BRIEFEST MOMENT--
YET, IN THAT SPLIT-SECOND, TWO DESTINIES, WHICH HAD BECOME CROSSED, INTER-TWINED--
HWAK!
SPLOOSH!
--ARE WRENCHED SUDDENLY, VIOLENTLY APART!
WHEW!-- LANDING ON THIS GARBAGE SCOW--REALLY TOOK IT OUT OF ME.
CAN'T--MOVE. GOTTA--CATCH MY BREATH-- FOR A MINUTE.
BUT--MORBIUS OUGHTTA BE--OKAY. WITH BONES AS LIGHT AS HIS--HE--
OH NO! NO!! HE'S-- GOING DOWN OUT THERE-- DOWN LIKE A ROCK.
MUST BE CAUGHT-- IN SOME KIND OF UNDER-TOW!
JUST ENOUGH WEB-FLUID LEFT--FOR ONE FAST SHOT.
GOT TO MAKE IT COUNT, OR ELSE--
THWIPPP
I-- MISSED HIM!
BUT, THE WEBBING STUCK TO-- THE SERUM!
HE'S--GONE.
THINGS: SOMEHOW, WE ALWAYS MANAGE-- TO HOLD ON TO THINGS--
WHILE MEN SINK, DOOMED, AROUND US--!


AND SOON, ON AN ADJACENT ROOFTOP...
I LET HIM DIE, DOC. I COULD'VE SAVED HIM... AND I LET HIM DIE.
MAYBE...I DIDN'T REALLY CARE ABOUT MORBIUS AT ALL... JUST ABOUT OUR PRECIOUS SERUM.
DON'T TALK CRAZY, SPIDER-MAN.
NOW RELAX, WHILE I-- THERE.
IN A MINUTE, WE'LL KNOW IF YOUR MALADY IS SIMILAR ENOUGH TO MINE FOR THE SERUM TO--
WELL-- ONE THING'S --FOR SURE--
SOME-THING'S HAPPENING TO ME-- SOMETHING THAT--
NO!
HANDS! HANDS!
BACK! STAY BACK!!
CAN'T TAKE IT ANY MORE-- GOT TO--
GONE! DOC-- THEY'RE GONE!
ALL FOUR EXTRA ARMS--VANISHED, JUST LIKE THAT!
YOU'RE-- A VERY LUCKY FELLA.
YEAH... LUCKY...
BUT THAT POOR DEVIL, SWEPT OUT TO SEA--AND YOU, WITH THE CURSE THAT TURNS YOU INTO THE LIZARD--
MAYBE THERE'S A MONSTER LOCKED INSIDE EACH OF US, DOC--JUST WAITING TO BE UNCHAINED--
--WAITING TO DESTROY US!
IF SO, THEN YOU FACED YOUR MONSTER TONIGHT --AND YOU DEFEATED HIM.
I GUESS MY PROBLEMS ARE PRETTY SMALL-- COMPARED TO SOME.
BUT MORBIUS COULDN'T FACE HIS-- AND IT KILLED HIM.
AND MAYBE-- JUST MAYBE--
--THAT'S WHAT HE REALLY WANTED--ALL THE TIME--!
-FINIS-?

SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL COMICS GROUP™
103
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20¢
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
ALL NEW --AND ALL GREAT!!
GUEST-STARRING: KA-ZAR and ZABU THE SABRE-TOOTH!
GOG! HE WHO WALKS THE SAVAGE LAND!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!
ONE OF THE MOST OFFBEAT SPIDEY SHOCKERS OF ALL!
"WALK THE SAVAGE LAND!"
STAN LEE, EDITOR * ROY THOMAS, WRITER * GIL KANE, ARTIST * FRANK GIACOIA, INKER
ARTIE SIMEK, LETTERER
6812
AND, IF YOU THINK OUR SPLASH PAGE IS OUTASITE --WAIT'LL YOU GET A LOAD OF OUR STORY--

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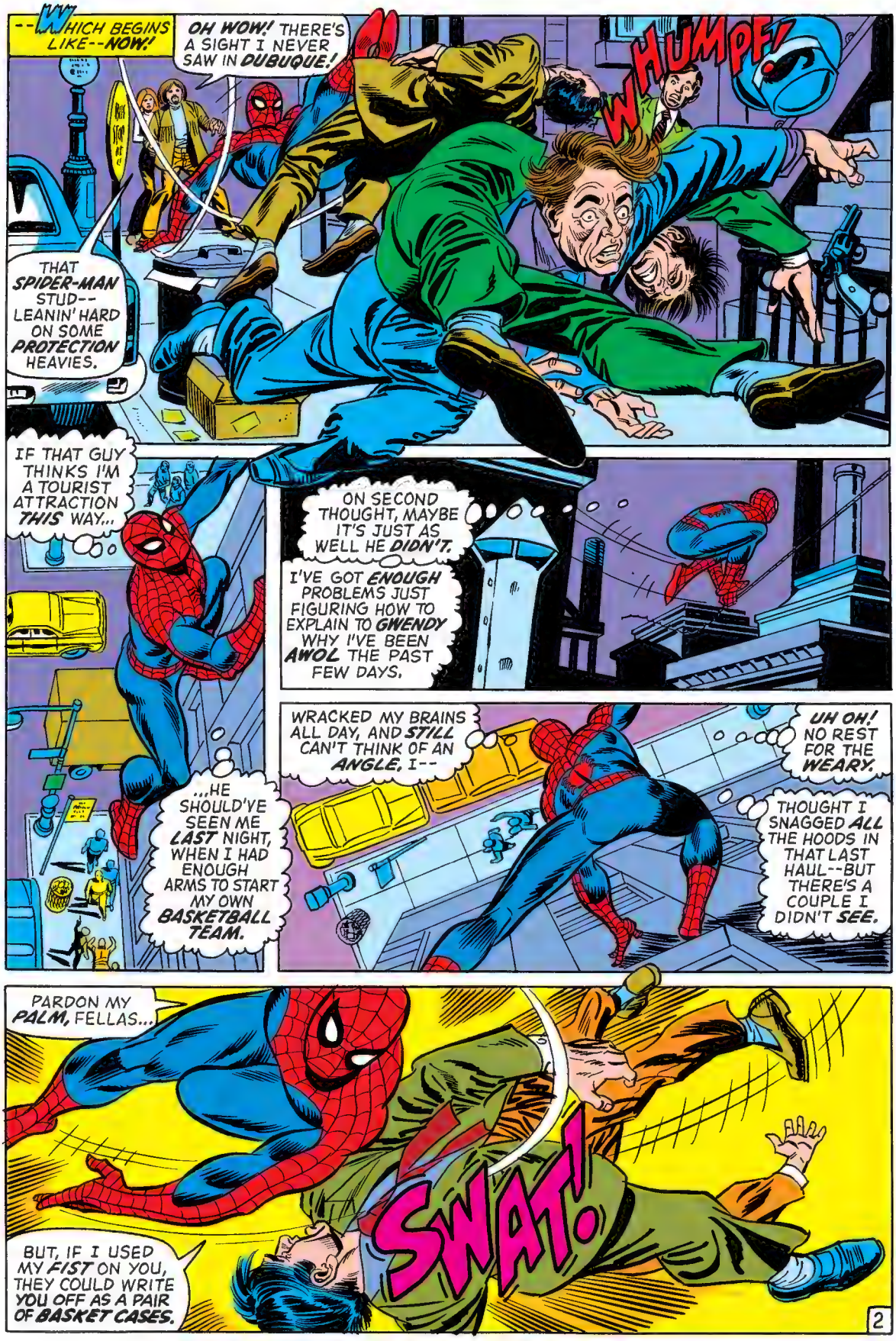
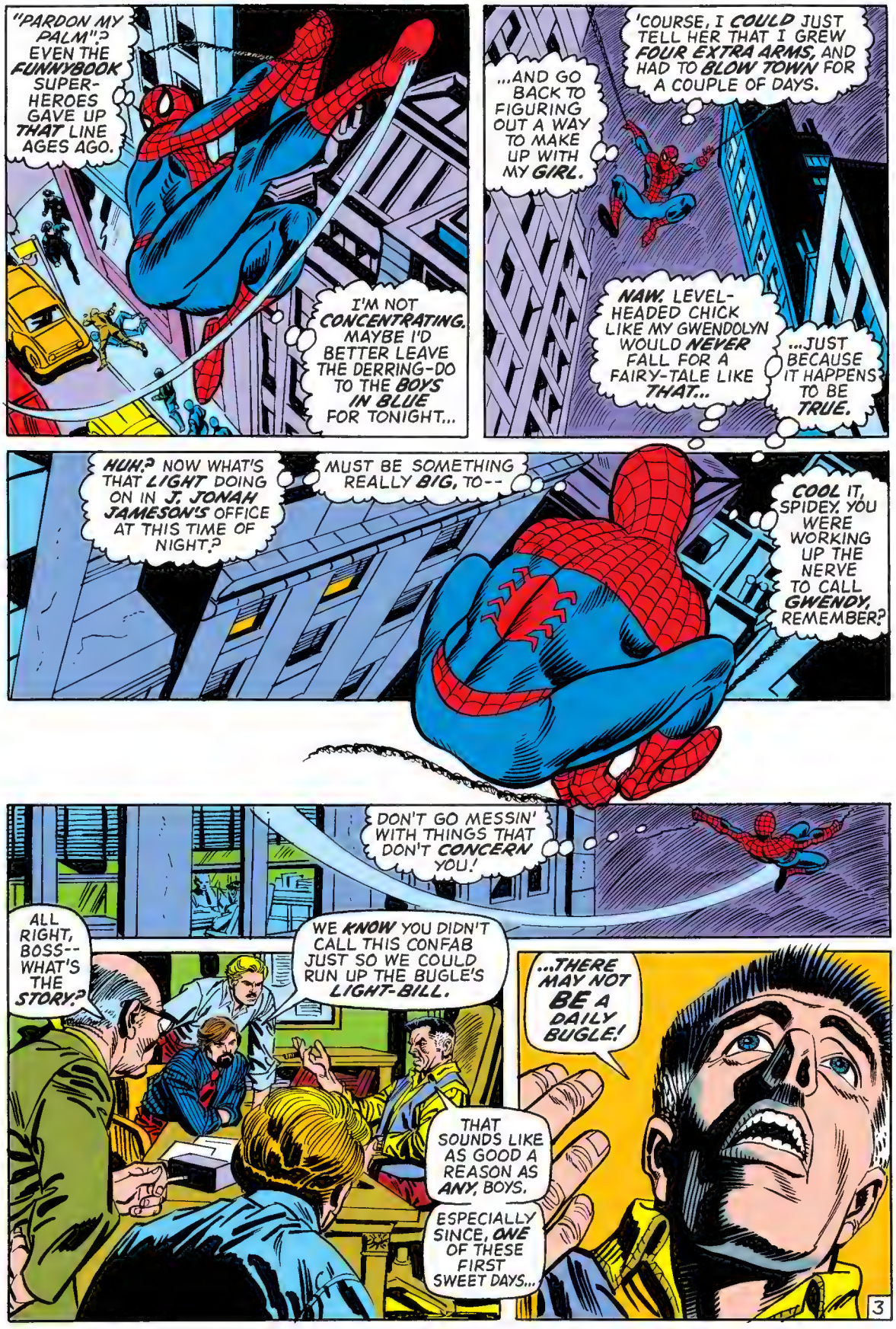
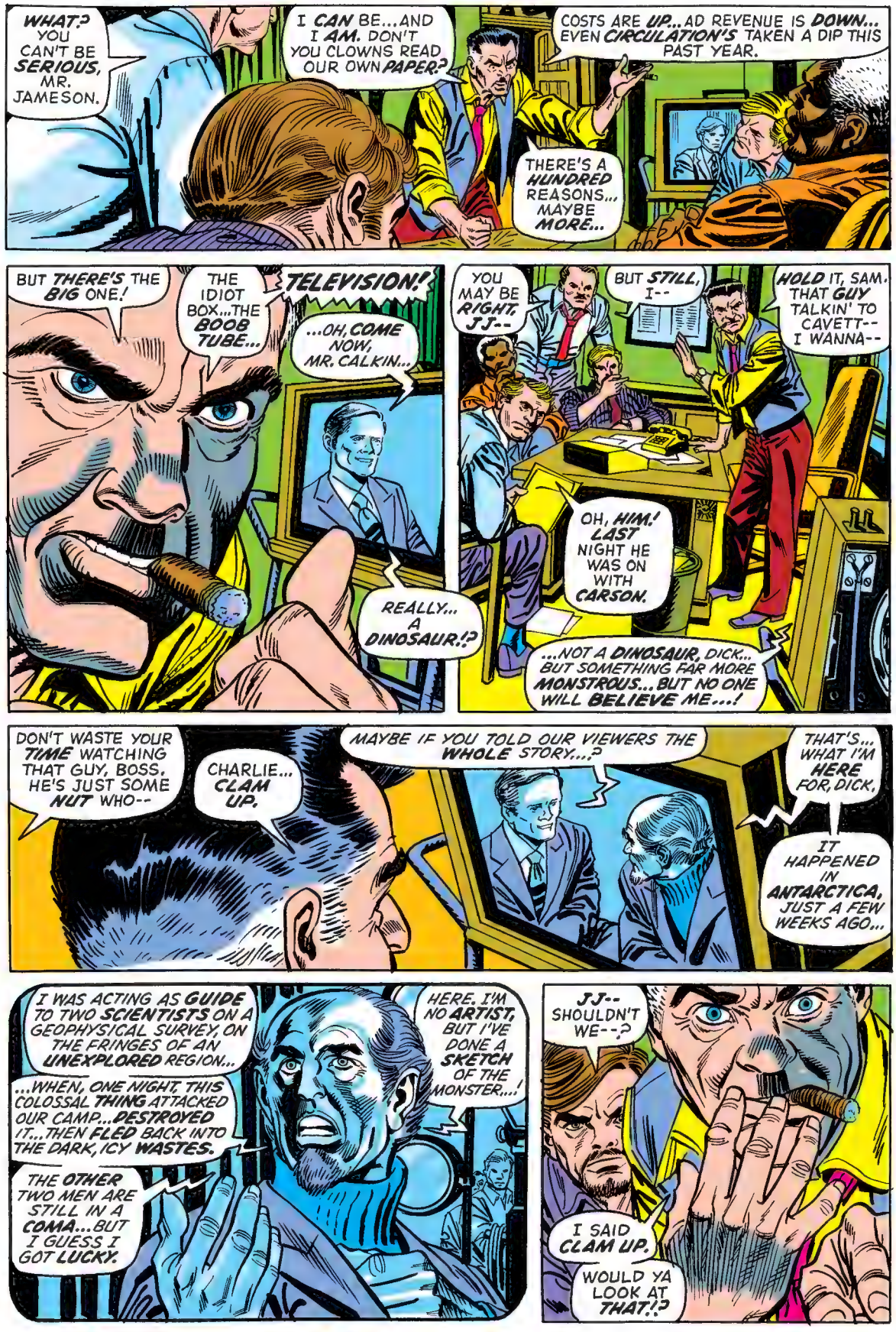
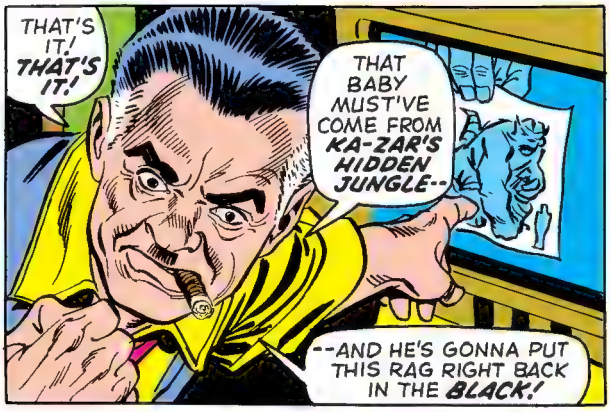

--WHICH BEGINS LIKE--NOW!
OH WOW! THERE'S A SIGHT I NEVER SAW IN DUBUQUE!
WHUMPF!
THAT SPIDER-MAN STUD-- LEANIN' HARD ON SOME PROTECTION HEAVIES.
IF THAT GUY THINKS I'M A TOURIST ATTRACTION THIS WAY...
...HE SHOULD'VE SEEN ME LAST NIGHT, WHEN I HAD ENOUGH ARMS TO START MY OWN BASKETBALL TEAM.
ON SECOND THOUGHT, MAYBE IT'S JUST AS WELL HE DIDN'T.
I'VE GOT ENOUGH PROBLEMS JUST FIGURING HOW TO EXPLAIN TO GWENDY WHY I'VE BEEN AWOL THE PAST FEW DAYS.
WRACKED MY BRAINS ALL DAY, AND STILL CAN'T THINK OF AN ANGLE, I--
UH OH! NO REST FOR THE WEARY.
THOUGHT I SNAGGED ALL THE HOODS IN THAT LAST HAUL--BUT THERE'S A COUPLE I DIDN'T SEE.
PARDON MY PALM, FELLAS...
SWAT!
BUT, IF I USED MY FIST ON YOU, THEY COULD WRITE YOU OFF AS A PAIR OF BASKET CASES.

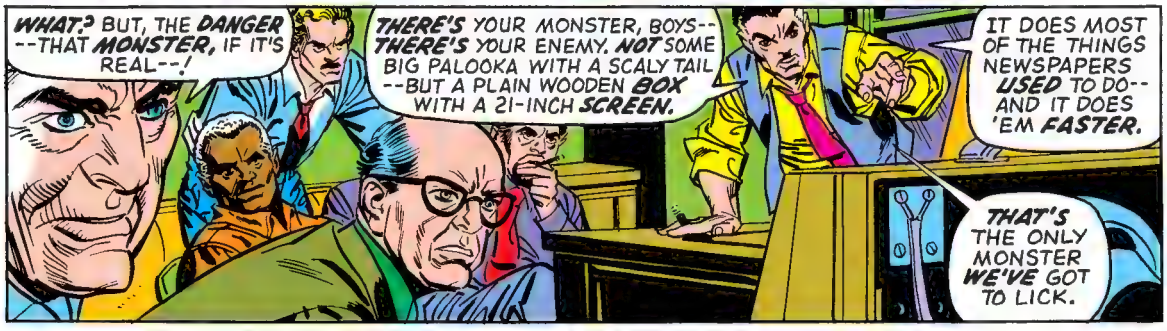

"PARDON MY PALM"? EVEN THE FUNNYBOOK SUPER-HEROES GAVE UP THAT LINE AGES AGO.
I'M NOT CONCENTRATING. MAYBE I'D BETTER LEAVE THE DERRING-DO TO THE BOYS IN BLUE FOR TONIGHT...
...AND GO BACK TO FIGURING OUT A WAY TO MAKE UP WITH MY GIRL.
'COURSE, I COULD JUST TELL HER THAT I GREW FOUR EXTRA ARMS, AND HAD TO BLOW TOWN FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS.
NAW. LEVEL-HEADED CHICK LIKE MY GWENDOLYN WOULD NEVER FALL FOR A FAIRY-TALE LIKE THAT...
...JUST BECAUSE IT HAPPENS TO BE TRUE.
HUH? NOW WHAT'S THAT LIGHT DOING ON IN J. JONAH JAMESON'S OFFICE AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?
MUST BE SOMETHING REALLY BIG, TO--
COOL IT, SPIDEY. YOU WERE WORKING UP THE NERVE TO CALL GWENDY, REMEMBER?
DON'T GO MESSIN' WITH THINGS THAT DON'T CONCERN YOU!
ALL RIGHT, BOSS-- WHAT'S THE STORY?
WE KNOW YOU DIDN'T CALL THIS CONFAB JUST SO WE COULD RUN UP THE BUGLE'S LIGHT-BILL.
THAT SOUNDS LIKE AS GOOD A REASON AS ANY, BOYS.
ESPECIALLY SINCE, ONE OF THESE FIRST SWEET DAYS...
...THERE MAY NOT BE A DAILY BUGLE!
3

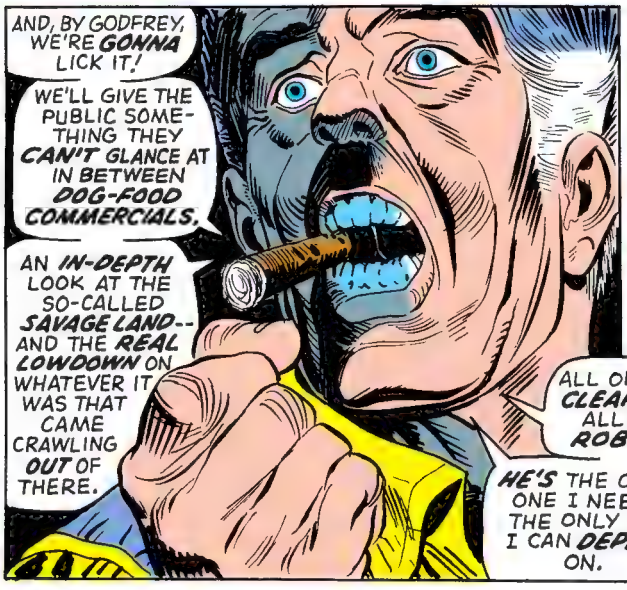

WHAT? YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS, MR. JAMESON.
I CAN BE...AND I AM. DON'T YOU CLOWNS READ OUR OWN PAPER?
COSTS ARE UP.. AD REVENUE IS DOWN... EVEN CIRCULATION'S TAKEN A DIP THIS PAST YEAR.
THERE'S A HUNDRED REASONS... MAYBE MORE...
BUT THERE'S THE BIG ONE!
THE IDIOT BOX...THE BOOB TUBE...
TELEVISION!
...OH, COME NOW, MR. CALKIN...
REALLY... A DINOSAUR!?
YOU MAY BE RIGHT, JJ--
BUT STILL, I--
HOLD IT, SAM. THAT GUY TALKIN' TO CAVETT-- I WANNA--
OH, HIM! LAST NIGHT HE WAS ON WITH CARSON.
...NOT A DINOSAUR, DICK... BUT SOMETHING FAR MORE MONSTROUS... BUT NO ONE WILL BELIEVE ME...!
DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME WATCHING THAT GUY, BOSS, HE'S JUST SOME NUT WHO--
CHARLIE... CLAM UP.
MAYBE IF YOU TOLD OUR VIEWERS THE WHOLE STORY...?
THAT'S... WHAT I'M HERE FOR, DICK.
IT HAPPENED IN ANTARCTICA, JUST A FEW WEEKS AGO...
I WAS ACTING AS GUIDE TO TWO SCIENTISTS ON A GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY, ON THE FRINGES OF AN UNEXPLORED REGION...
...WHEN, ONE NIGHT, THIS COLOSSAL THING ATTACKED OUR CAMP...DESTROYED IT...THEN FLED BACK INTO THE DARK, ICY WASTES.
THE OTHER TWO MEN ARE STILL IN A COMA...BUT I GUESS I GOT LUCKY.
HERE. I'M NO ARTIST, BUT I'VE DONE A SKETCH OF THE MONSTER...!
JJ-- SHOULDN'T WE--?
I SAID CLAM UP.
WOULD YA LOOK AT THAT!?

HE LOOKED ...MORE OR LESS LIKE THIS.
COMPARATIVE SIZE OF MONSTER AND HUMAN BEING

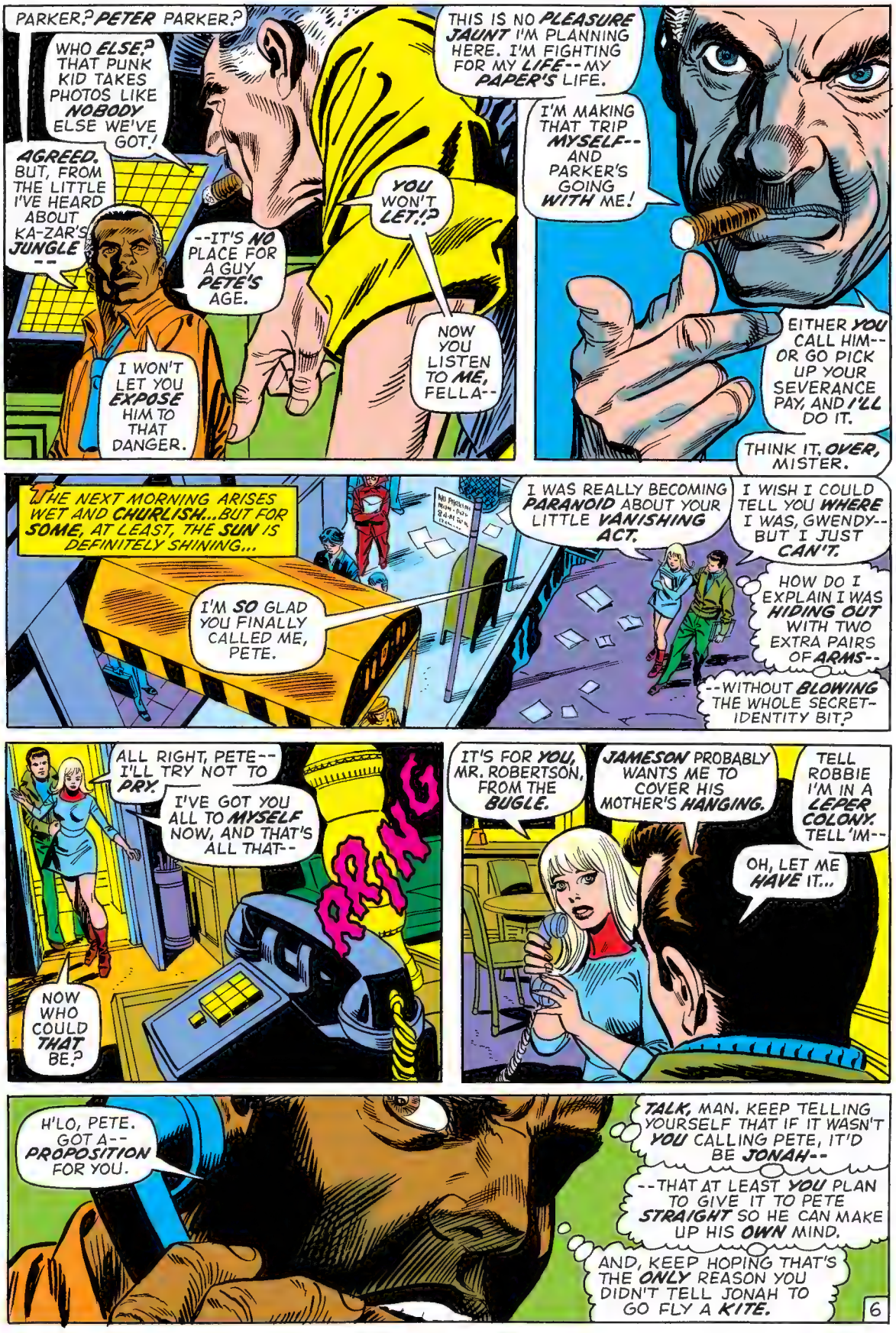

THAT'S IT! THAT'S IT!
THAT BABY MUST'VE COME FROM KA-ZAR'S HIDDEN JUNGLE--
--AND HE'S GONNA PUT THIS RAG RIGHT BACK IN THE BLACK!

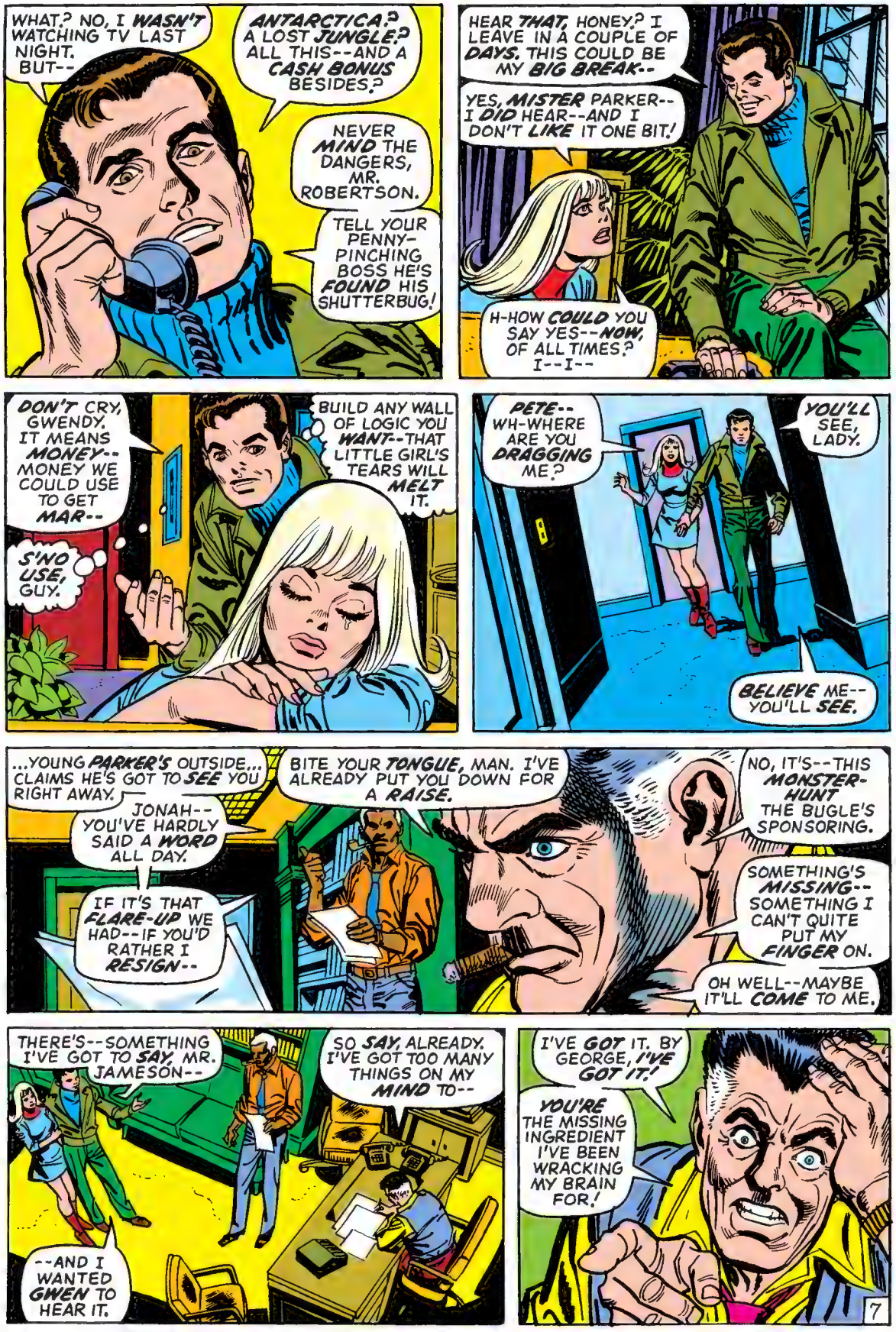
GREAT IDEA, CHIEF. WE'LL DO OUR OWN INTERVIEW WITH THIS CALKIN GUY, AND--
SHOVE YOUR INTERVIEW, MISTER!
I'M TALKING ABOUT A WHOLE SERIES OF ARTICLES-- WITH PHOTOS--
--SENT BACK FROM SMACK-DAB IN THE MIDDLE OF KA-ZAR'S PREHISTORIC PLAYPEN!

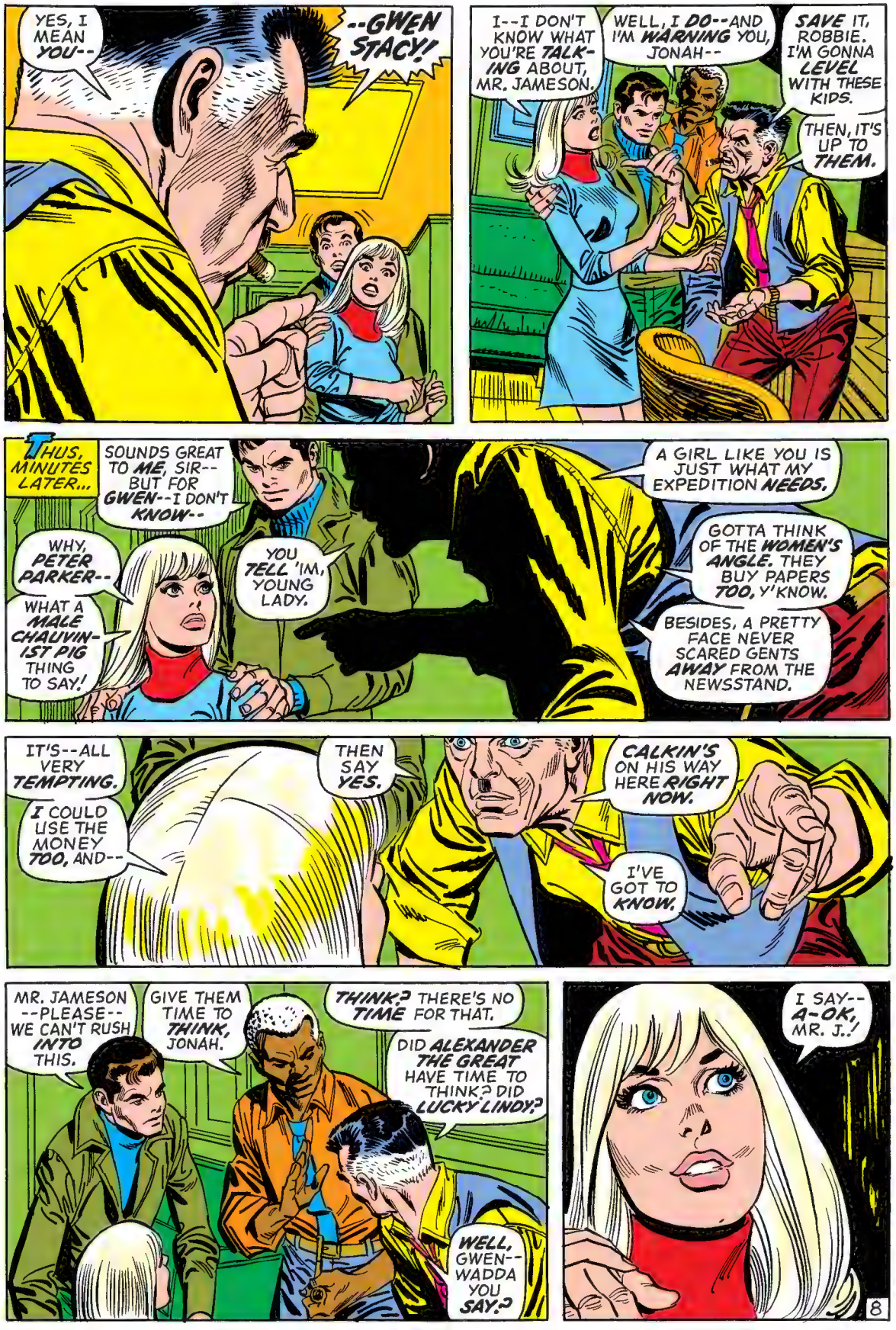

WHAT? BUT, THE DANGER --THAT MONSTER, IF IT'S REAL--!
THERE'S YOUR MONSTER, BOYS-- THERE'S YOUR ENEMY. NOT SOME BIG PALOOKA WITH A SCALY TAIL --BUT A PLAIN WOODEN BOX WITH A 21-INCH SCREEN.
IT DOES MOST OF THE THINGS NEWSPAPERS USED TO DO-- AND IT DOES 'EM FASTER.
THAT'S THE ONLY MONSTER WE'VE GOT TO LICK.


AND, BY GODFREY, WE'RE GONNA LICK IT!
WE'LL GIVE THE PUBLIC SOMETHING THEY CAN'T GLANCE AT IN BETWEEN DOG-FOOD COMMERCIALS.
AN IN-DEPTH LOOK AT THE SO-CALLED SAVAGE LAND-- AND THE REAL LOWDOWN ON WHATEVER IT WAS THAT CAME CRAWLING OUT OF THERE.

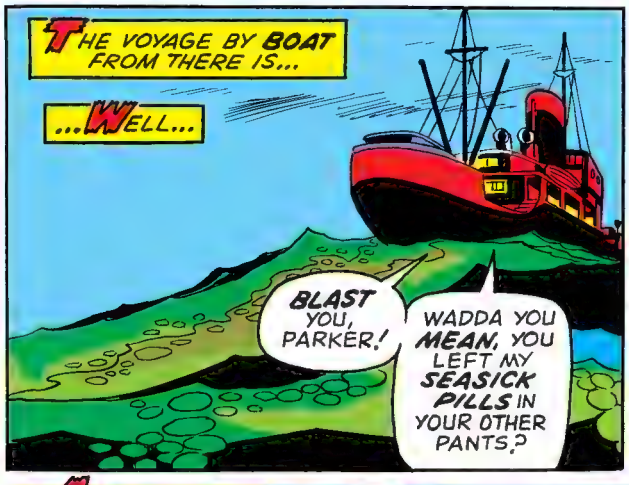
THEY'RE GOOD MEN, JONAH. YOU SHOULDN'T BE SO HARD ON THEM.
FORGET THEM.
IT'S CALKIN I WANT-- AND PARKER!
ALL OF YOU-- CLEAR OUT-- ALL BUT ROBBIE.
HE'S THE ONLY ONE I NEED-- THE ONLY ONE I CAN DEPEND ON.

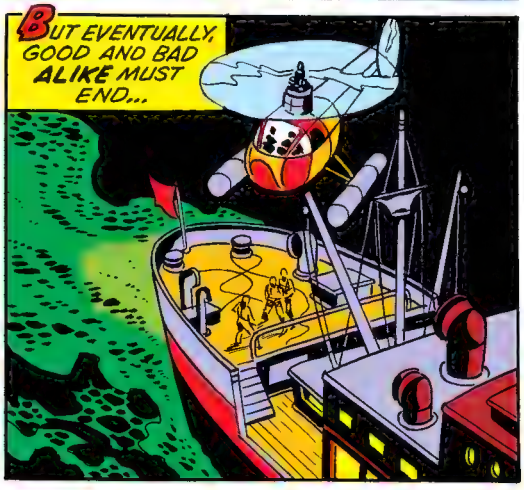

PARKER? PETER PARKER?
WHO ELSE? THAT PUNK KID TAKES PHOTOS LIKE NOBODY ELSE WE'VE GOT!
AGREED. BUT, FROM THE LITTLE I'VE HEARD ABOUT KA-ZAR'S JUNGLE --
--IT'S NO PLACE FOR A GUY PETE'S AGE.
I WON'T LET YOU EXPOSE HIM TO THAT DANGER.
YOU WON'T LET!?
NOW YOU LISTEN TO ME, FELLA--
THIS IS NO PLEASURE JAUNT I'M PLANNING HERE. I'M FIGHTING FOR MY LIFE--MY PAPER'S LIFE.
I'M MAKING THAT TRIP MYSELF--AND PARKER'S GOING WITH ME!
EITHER YOU CALL HIM--OR GO PICK UP YOUR SEVERANCE PAY, AND I'LL DO IT.
THINK IT, OVER, MISTER.
THE NEXT MORNING ARISES WET AND CHURLISH...BUT FOR SOME, AT LEAST, THE SUN IS DEFINITELY SHINING...
I'M SO GLAD YOU FINALLY CALLED ME, PETE.
I WAS REALLY BECOMING PARANOID ABOUT YOUR LITTLE VANISHING ACT.
I WISH I COULD TELL YOU WHERE I WAS, GWENDY--BUT I JUST CAN'T.
HOW DO I EXPLAIN I WAS HIDING OUT WITH TWO EXTRA PAIRS OF ARMS--
--WITHOUT BLOWING THE WHOLE SECRET-IDENTITY BIT?
ALL RIGHT, PETE--I'LL TRY NOT TO PRY.
I'VE GOT YOU ALL TO MYSELF NOW, AND THAT'S ALL THAT--
RING
NOW WHO COULD THAT BE?
IT'S FOR YOU, MR. ROBERTSON, FROM THE BUGLE.
JAMESON PROBABLY WANTS ME TO COVER HIS MOTHER'S HANGING.
TELL ROBBIE I'M IN A LEPER COLONY. TELL 'IM--
OH, LET ME HAVE IT...
H'LO, PETE. GOT A--PROPOSITION FOR YOU.
TALK, MAN. KEEP TELLING YOURSELF THAT IF IT WASN'T YOU CALLING PETE, IT'D BE JONAH--
--THAT AT LEAST YOU PLAN TO GIVE IT TO PETE STRAIGHT SO HE CAN MAKE UP HIS OWN MIND.
AND, KEEP HOPING THAT'S THE ONLY REASON YOU DIDN'T TELL JONAH TO GO FLY A KITE.
6

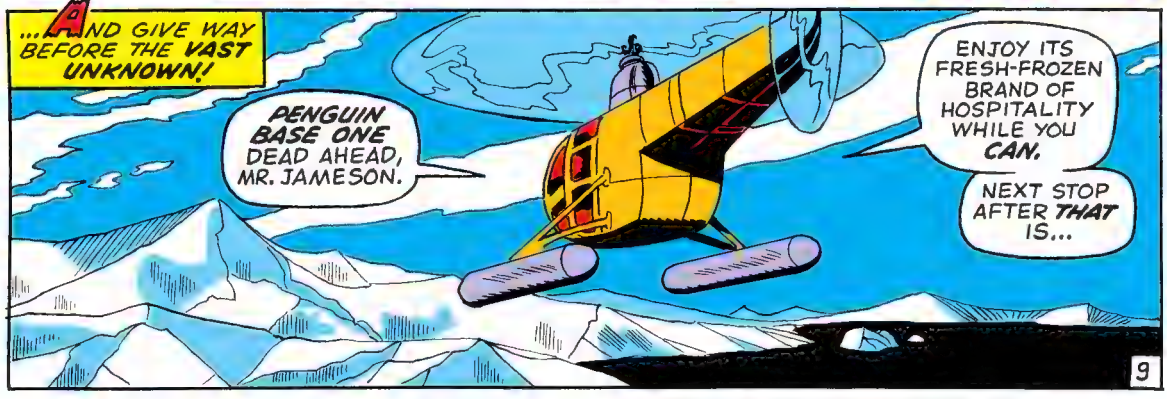

WHAT? NO, I WASN'T WATCHING TV LAST NIGHT. BUT--
ANTARCTICA? A LOST JUNGLE? ALL THIS--AND A CASH BONUS BESIDES?
NEVER MIND THE DANGERS, MR. ROBERTSON.
TELL YOUR PENNY-PINCHING BOSS HE'S FOUND HIS SHUTTERBUG!
HEAR THAT, HONEY? I LEAVE IN A COUPLE OF DAYS. THIS COULD BE MY BIG BREAK--
YES, MISTER PARKER-- I DID HEAR--AND I DON'T LIKE IT ONE BIT!
H-HOW COULD YOU SAY YES--NOW, OF ALL TIMES? I--I--
DON'T CRY, GWENDY. IT MEANS MONEY-- MONEY WE COULD USE TO GET MAR--
S'NO USE, GUY.
BUILD ANY WALL OF LOGIC YOU WANT--THAT LITTLE GIRL'S TEARS WILL MELT IT.
PETE-- WH-WHERE ARE YOU DRAGGING ME?
YOU'LL SEE, LADY.
BELIEVE ME-- YOU'LL SEE.
...YOUNG PARKER'S OUTSIDE... CLAIMS HE'S GOT TO SEE YOU RIGHT AWAY.
JONAH-- YOU'VE HARDLY SAID A WORD ALL DAY.
IF IT'S THAT FLARE-UP WE HAD--IF YOU'D RATHER I RESIGN--
BITE YOUR TONGUE, MAN. I'VE ALREADY PUT YOU DOWN FOR A RAISE.
NO, IT'S--THIS MONSTER-HUNT THE BUGLE'S SPONSORING.
SOMETHING'S MISSING-- SOMETHING I CAN'T QUITE PUT MY FINGER ON.
OH WELL--MAYBE IT'LL COME TO ME.
THERE'S--SOMETHING I'VE GOT TO SAY, MR. JAMESON--
--AND I WANTED GWEN TO HEAR IT.
SO SAY, ALREADY. I'VE GOT TOO MANY THINGS ON MY MIND TO--
I'VE GOT IT. BY GEORGE, I'VE GOT IT!
YOU'RE THE MISSING INGREDIENT I'VE BEEN WRACKING MY BRAIN FOR!

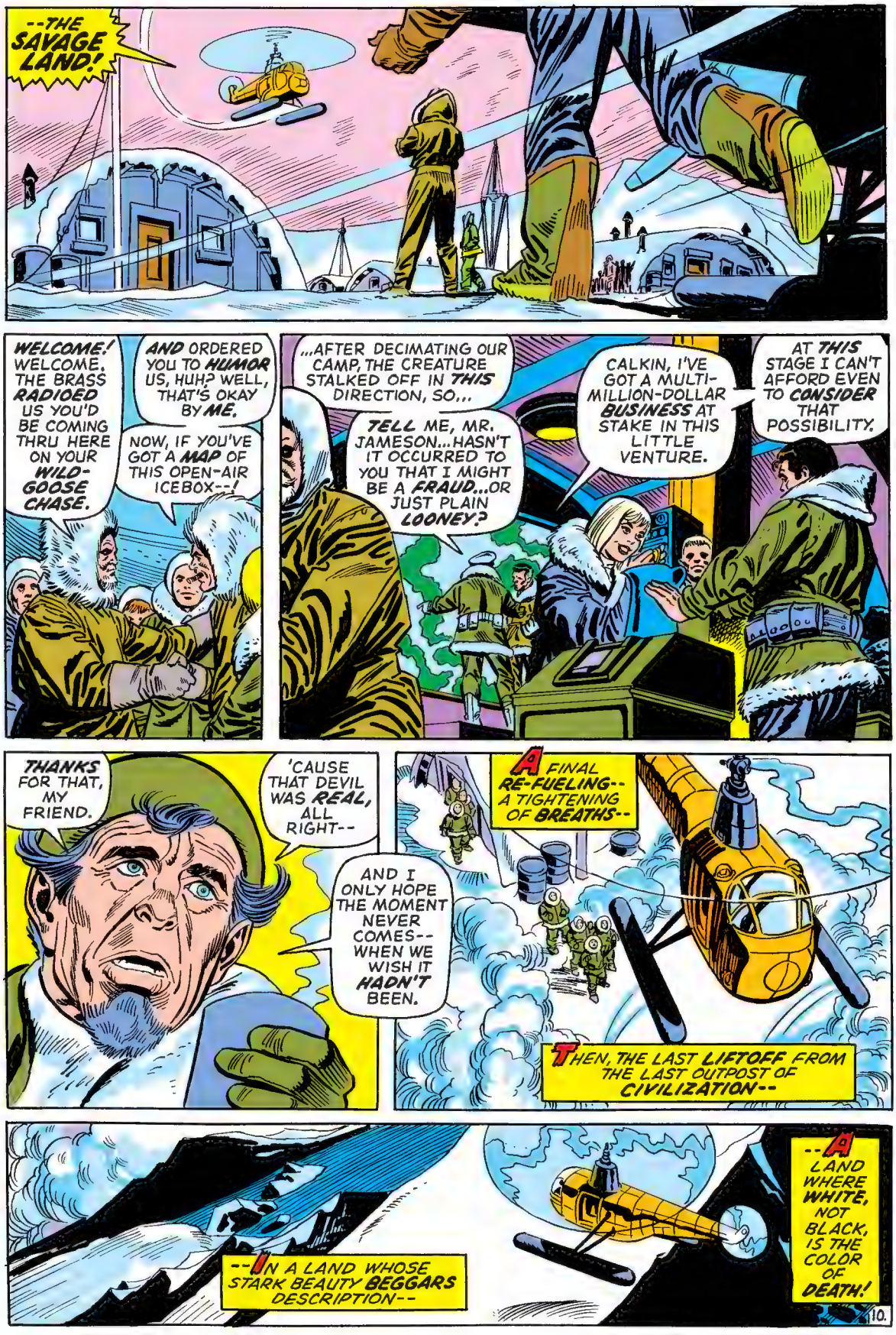

YES, I MEAN YOU--
--GWEN STACY!
I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, MR. JAMESON.
WELL, I DO--AND I'M WARNING YOU, JONAH--
SAVE IT, ROBBIE. I'M GONNA LEVEL WITH THESE KIDS.
THEN, IT'S UP TO THEM.
THUS, MINUTES LATER...
SOUNDS GREAT TO ME, SIR--BUT FOR GWEN--I DON'T KNOW--
WHY, PETER PARKER--
WHAT A MALE CHAUVINIST PIG THING TO SAY!
YOU TELL 'IM, YOUNG LADY.
A GIRL LIKE YOU IS JUST WHAT MY EXPEDITION NEEDS.
GOTTA THINK OF THE WOMEN'S ANGLE. THEY BUY PAPERS TOO, Y'KNOW.
BESIDES, A PRETTY FACE NEVER SCARED GENTS AWAY FROM THE NEWSSTAND.
IT'S--ALL VERY TEMPTING.
I COULD USE THE MONEY TOO, AND--
THEN SAY YES.
CALKIN'S ON HIS WAY HERE RIGHT NOW.
I'VE GOT TO KNOW.
MR. JAMESON --PLEASE-- WE CAN'T RUSH INTO THIS.
GIVE THEM TIME TO THINK, JONAH.
THINK? THERE'S NO TIME FOR THAT.
DID ALEXANDER THE GREAT HAVE TIME TO THINK? DID LUCKY LINDY?
WELL, GWEN--WADDA YOU SAY?
I SAY--A-OK, MR. J.!
8

THE NEXT 48 HOURS ARE FRANTIC ONES...
C'MON, WOMAN.
WE'VE JUST GOT TIME TO LISTEN TO "JESUS CHRIST, SUPERSTAR"!
DON'T TELL ME YOU HAVEN'T GOT 'EM IN STOCK. GET 'EM!
I WANT A PITH HELMET...SAFARI JACKET...THE WORKS...
...AND I WANT IT TODAY!
HMMM...THE WAY EXPENSES ARE MOUNTING UP, THIS LITTLE FORAY HAD BETTER PAY OFF...
...OR ELSE NEW YORK'LL SOON BE GETTING ALL ITS NEWS OFF MEN'S-ROOM WALLS!
THE PLANE TRIP SOUTH TO RIO IS FAST AND SMOOTH...

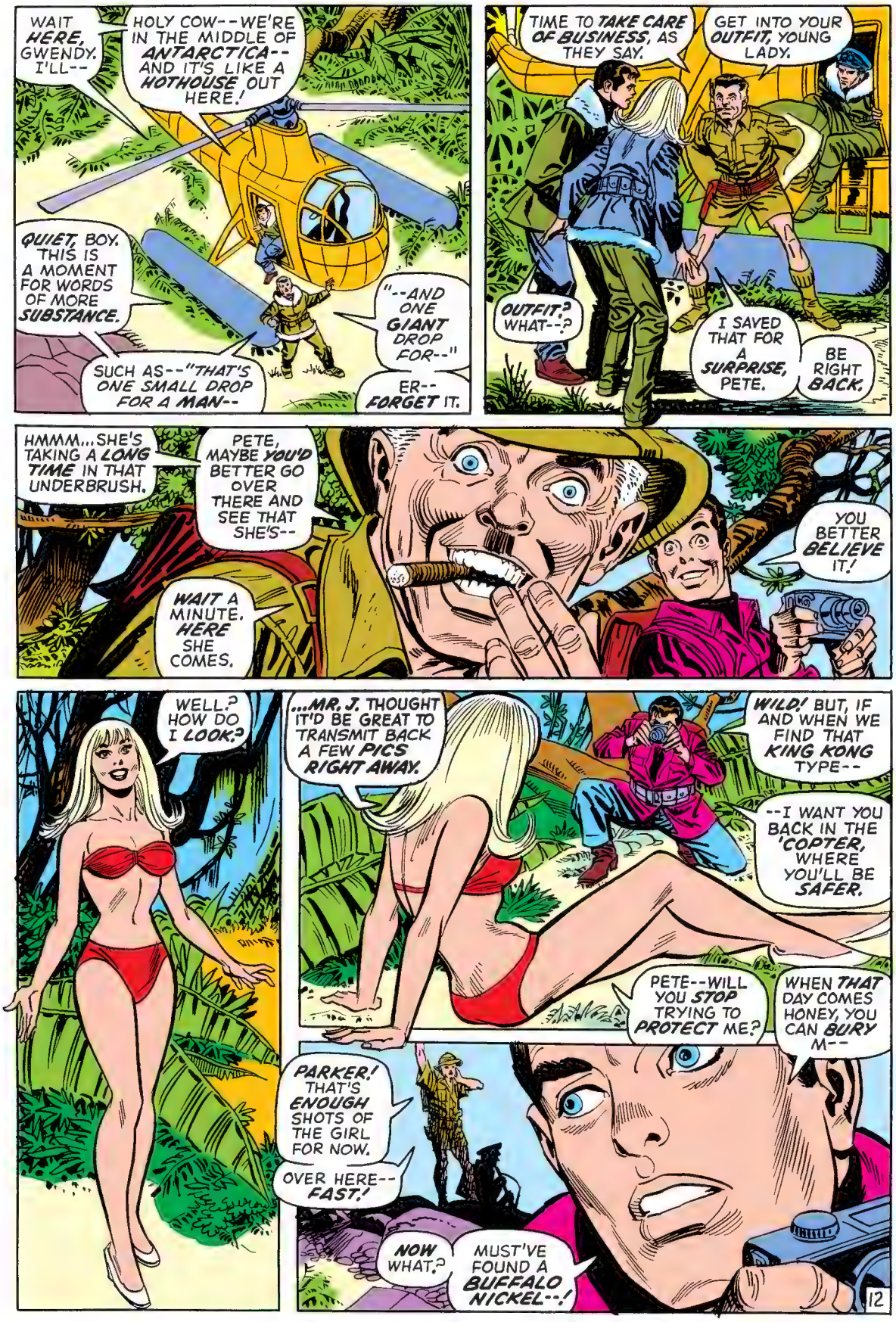

THE VOYAGE BY BOAT FROM THERE IS...
...WELL...
BLAST YOU, PARKER!
WADDA YOU MEAN, YOU LEFT MY SEASICK PILLS IN YOUR OTHER PANTS?

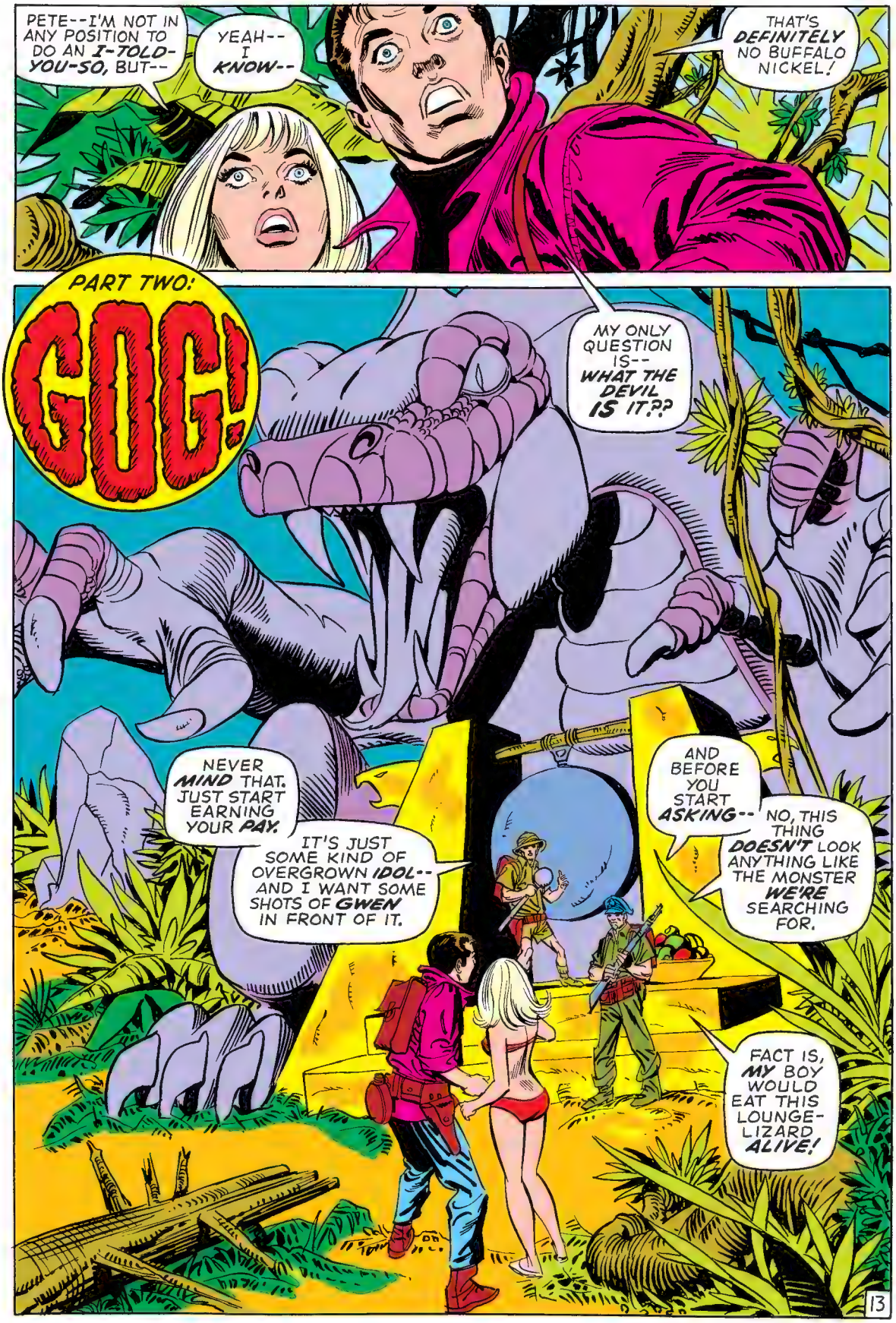

BUT EVENTUALLY, GOOD AND BAD ALIKE MUST END...

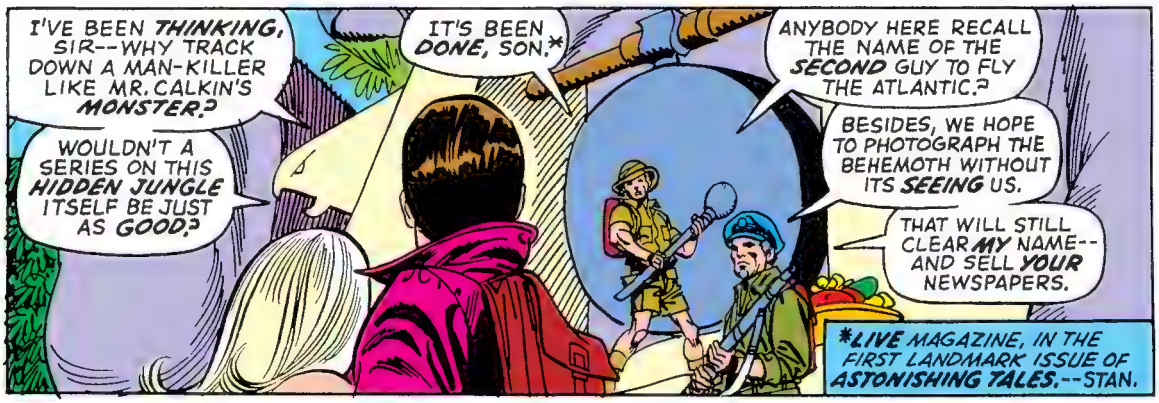

...AND GIVE WAY BEFORE THE VAST UNKNOWN!
PENGUIN BASE ONE DEAD AHEAD, MR. JAMESON.
ENJOY ITS FRESH-FROZEN BRAND OF HOSPITALITY WHILE YOU CAN.
NEXT STOP AFTER THAT IS...

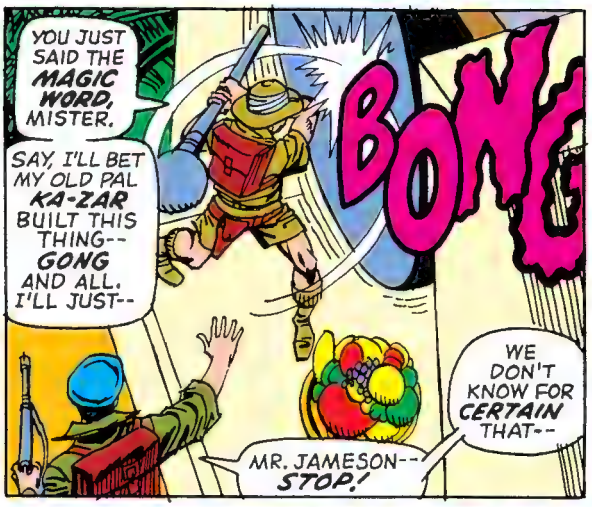

--THE SAVAGE LAND!
WELCOME! WELCOME, THE BRASS RADIOED US YOU'D BE COMING THRU HERE ON YOUR WILD-GOOSE CHASE.
AND ORDERED YOU TO HUMOR US, HUH? WELL, THAT'S OKAY BY ME.
NOW, IF YOU'VE GOT A MAP OF THIS OPEN-AIR ICEBOX--!
...AFTER DECIMATING OUR CAMP, THE CREATURE STALKED OFF IN THIS DIRECTION, SO...
TELL ME, MR. JAMESON...HASN'T IT OCCURRED TO YOU THAT I MIGHT BE A FRAUD...OR JUST PLAIN LOONEY?
CALKIN, I'VE GOT A MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR BUSINESS AT STAKE IN THIS LITTLE VENTURE.
AT THIS STAGE I CAN'T AFFORD EVEN TO CONSIDER THAT POSSIBILITY.
THANKS FOR THAT, MY FRIEND.
'CAUSE THAT DEVIL WAS REAL, ALL RIGHT--
AND I ONLY HOPE THE MOMENT NEVER COMES-- WHEN WE WISH IT HADN'T BEEN.
A FINAL RE-FUELING-- A TIGHTENING OF BREATHS--
THEN, THE LAST LIFTOFF FROM THE LAST OUTPOST OF CIVILIZATION--
--IN A LAND WHOSE STARK BEAUTY BEGGARS DESCRIPTION--
--A LAND WHERE WHITE, NOT BLACK, IS THE COLOR OF DEATH!

HOURS PASS... THE HELICOPTER REACHES THE LIMITS OF ITS FUEL, ITS POINT-OF-NO-RETURN...
AND THEN, WHITE UPON WHITE:
A GLEAMING IVORY WALL OF MIST, SUDDENLY LOOMING BEFORE THE HUMMING 'COPTER LIKE A MILKY SHROUD...
IS IT ONLY A WHIPLASH WIND, A FREAKISH UPDRAFT, WHICH MAKES THE CRAFT SHUDDER MOMENTARILY BEFORE PLUNGING INTO THAT MIST...
OR IS IT...SOMETHING MORE...?
I CAN'T SEE A THING UP AHEAD.
MR. CALKIN--WHAT'S WRONG??
SPEAK UP, MAN--YOU'RE PALE AS A SHEET!
THAT--HIDDEN JUNGLE WE'RE LOOKING FOR, MR. JAMESON--
--I THINK WE'RE THERE!
SKRAWK!
WHAT DEEP-THRUST MEMORIES ARE AWAKENED BY THAT SWOOPING PTEROSAUR, CAREENING AWAY FROM THE BUZZING STEEL GNAT WHICH HAS STARTLED IT?
FOR CALKIN: THE MEMORY OF A RAZED CAMP, TWO COMRADES ALL BUT DISMEMBERED...
FOR JAMESON: THE DAY HE FIRST FACED KA-ZAR'S SNARLING SABRE-TOOTH...
BUT THE YOUNG, BEING YOUNG, HAVE FEWER MEMORIES...SO PETE AND GWEN CAN MERELY REACT, AND THEN ACCEPT...
...AS IF THERE WERE, PERHAPS, SOME SUBTLE COSMIC AFFINITY BETWEEN THE VERY YOUNG... AND THE AWESOMELY, INESTIMABLY ANCIENT...!
11


WAIT HERE, GWENDY. I'LL--
HOLY COW--WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF ANTARCTICA--AND IT'S LIKE A HOTHOUSE OUT HERE!
QUIET, BOY. THIS IS A MOMENT FOR WORDS OF MORE SUBSTANCE.
SUCH AS--"THAT'S ONE SMALL DROP FOR A MAN--
"--AND ONE GIANT DROP FOR--"
ER--FORGET IT.
TIME TO TAKE CARE OF BUSINESS, AS THEY SAY.
GET INTO YOUR OUTFIT, YOUNG LADY.
OUTFIT? WHAT--?
I SAVED THAT FOR A SURPRISE, PETE.
BE RIGHT BACK.
HMMM...SHE'S TAKING A LONG TIME IN THAT UNDERBRUSH.
PETE, MAYBE YOU'D BETTER GO OVER THERE AND SEE THAT SHE'S--
WAIT A MINUTE. HERE SHE COMES.
YOU BETTER BELIEVE IT!
WELL? HOW DO I LOOK?
...MR. J. THOUGHT IT'D BE GREAT TO TRANSMIT BACK A FEW PICS RIGHT AWAY.
WILD! BUT, IF AND WHEN WE FIND THAT KING KONG TYPE--
--I WANT YOU BACK IN THE 'COPTER, WHERE YOU'LL BE SAFER.
PETE--WILL YOU STOP TRYING TO PROTECT ME?
WHEN THAT DAY COMES HONEY, YOU CAN BURY M--
PARKER! THAT'S ENOUGH SHOTS OF THE GIRL FOR NOW.
OVER HERE--FAST!
NOW WHAT?
MUST'VE FOUND A BUFFALO NICKEL--!
12

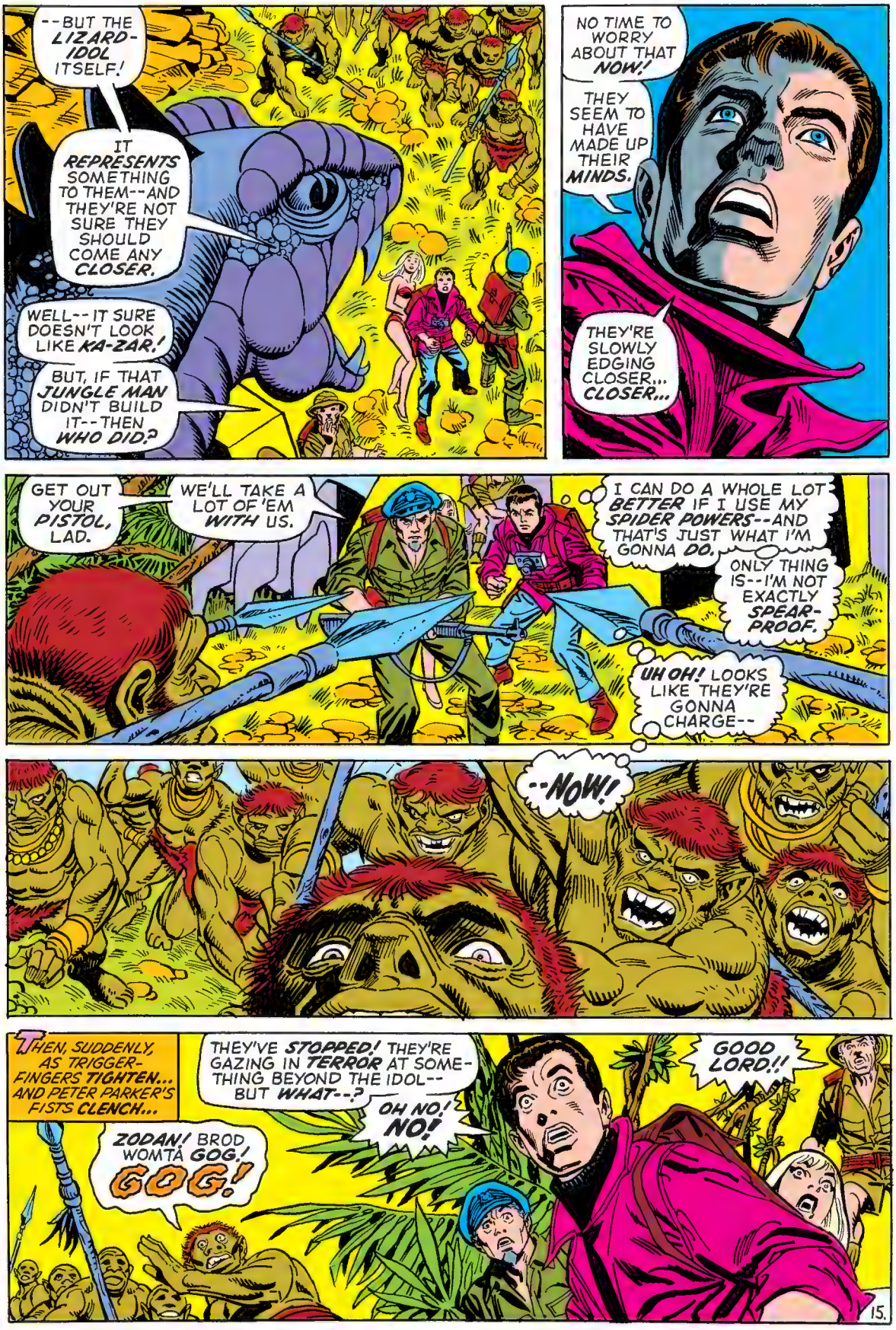

PETE--I'M NOT IN ANY POSITION TO DO AN I-TOLD-YOU-SO, BUT--
YEAH-- I KNOW--
THAT'S DEFINITELY NO BUFFALO NICKEL!
PART TWO:
GOG!
MY ONLY QUESTION IS-- WHAT THE DEVIL IS IT??
NEVER MIND THAT. JUST START EARNING YOUR PAY.
IT'S JUST SOME KIND OF OVERGROWN IDOL-- AND I WANT SOME SHOTS OF GWEN IN FRONT OF IT.
AND BEFORE YOU START ASKING--
NO, THIS THING DOESN'T LOOK ANYTHING LIKE THE MONSTER WE'RE SEARCHING FOR.
FACT IS, MY BOY WOULD EAT THIS LOUNGE-LIZARD ALIVE!


I'VE BEEN THINKING, SIR--WHY TRACK DOWN A MAN-KILLER LIKE MR. CALKIN'S MONSTER?
IT'S BEEN DONE, SON.*
ANYBODY HERE RECALL THE NAME OF THE SECOND GUY TO FLY THE ATLANTIC?
WOULDN'T A SERIES ON THIS HIDDEN JUNGLE ITSELF BE JUST AS GOOD?
BESIDES, WE HOPE TO PHOTOGRAPH THE BEHEMOTH WITHOUT ITS SEEING US.
THAT WILL STILL CLEAR MY NAME-- AND SELL YOUR NEWSPAPERS.
*LIFE MAGAZINE, IN THE FIRST LANDMARK ISSUE OF ASTONISHING TALES.--STAN.

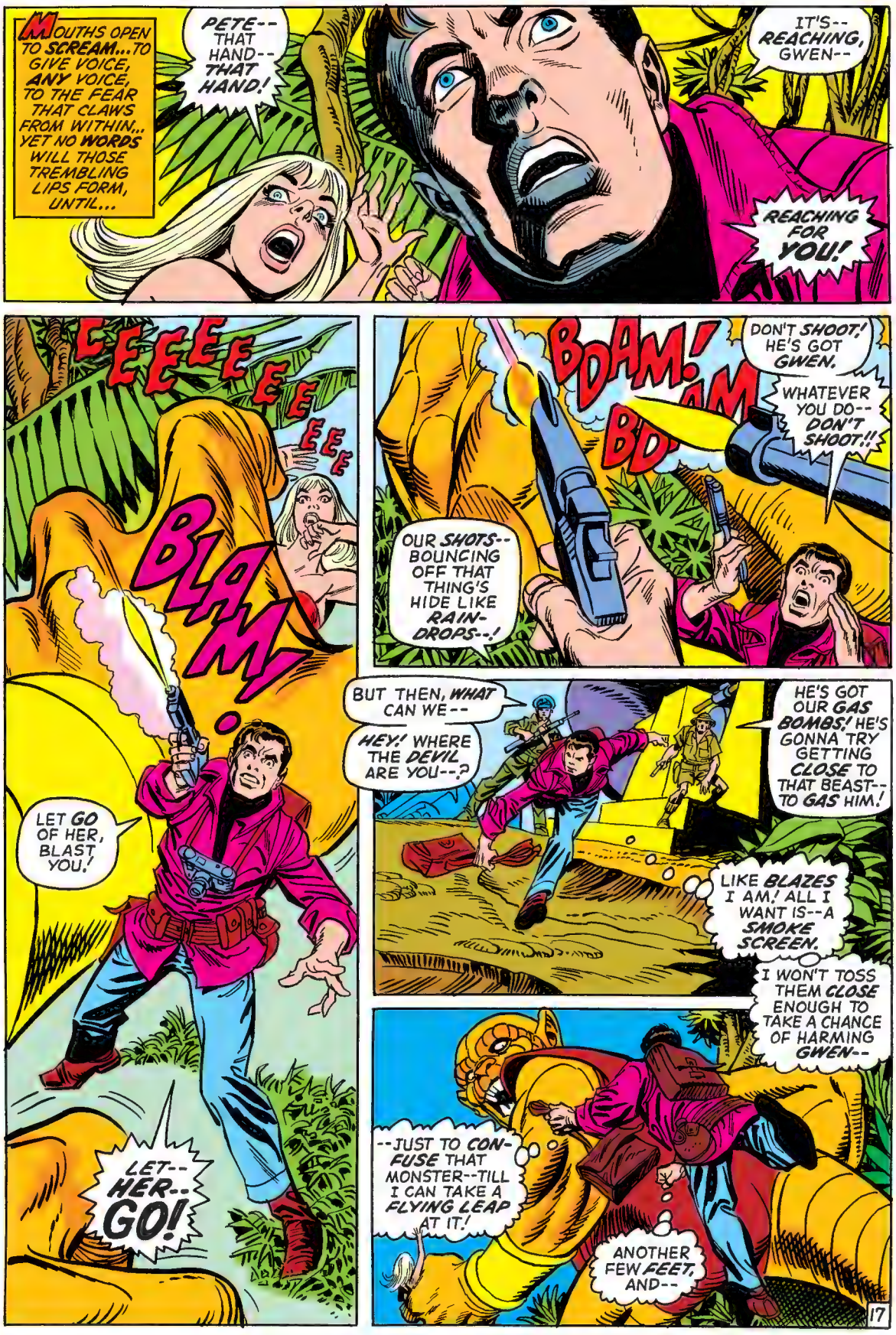

YOU JUST SAID THE MAGIC WORD, MISTER.
SAY, I'LL BET MY OLD PAL KA-ZAR BUILT THIS THING-- GONG AND ALL. I'LL JUST--
BONG
WE DON'T KNOW FOR CERTAIN THAT--
MR. JAMESON-- STOP!

DON'T BE DENSE, MAN. OF COURSE KA-ZAR BUILT IT. WHO ELSE COULD--?
UH OH.
PETER-- LOOK!

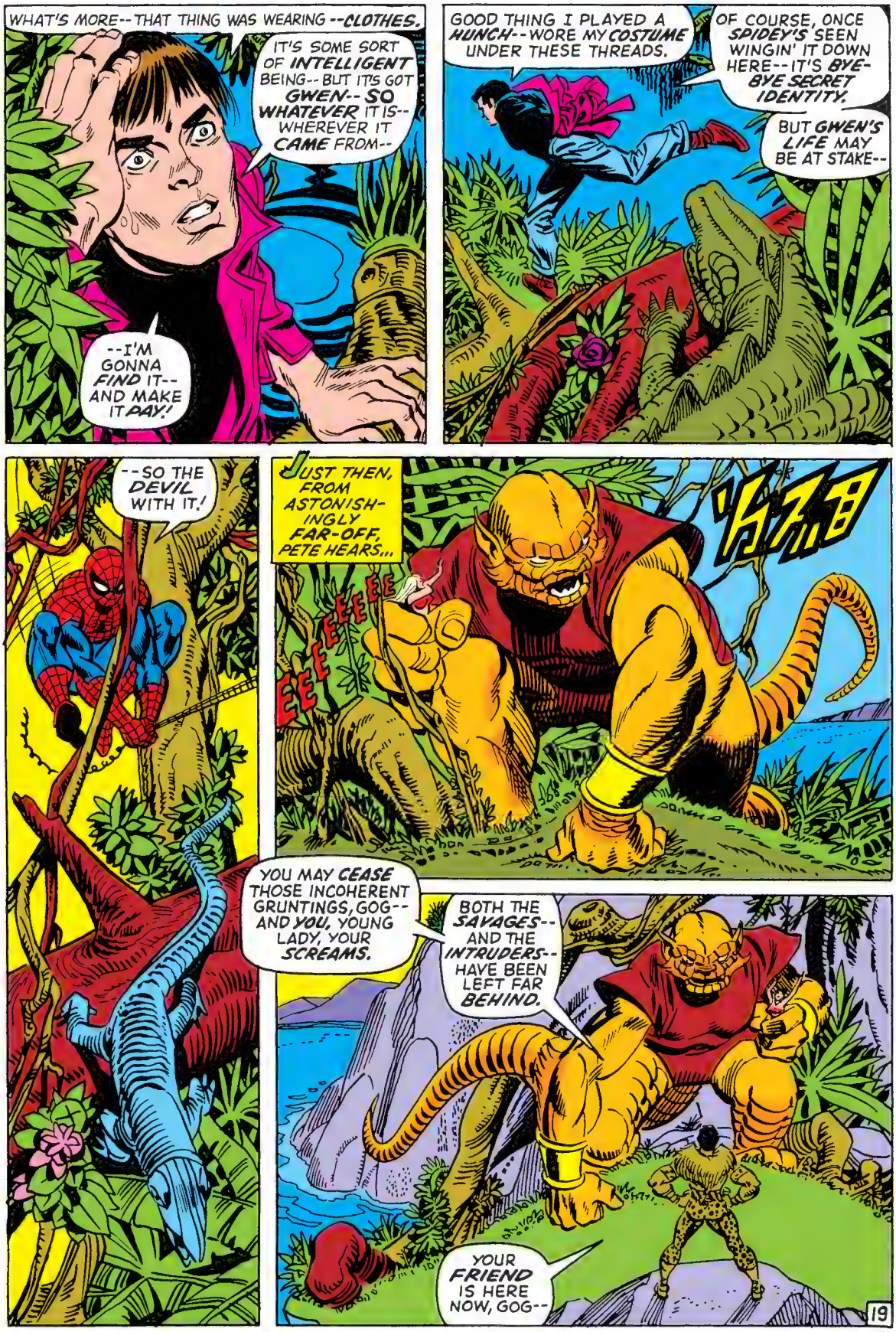
SILENT, THE SAVAGES STALK NEARER... THEN...
NOTAR! KADDA GOG! NOTAR!
MUST'VE SEEN GUNS LIKE MINE BEFORE. THEY'VE HALTED.
NO--IT'S NOT YOUR RIFLE THEY'RE POINTING AT--

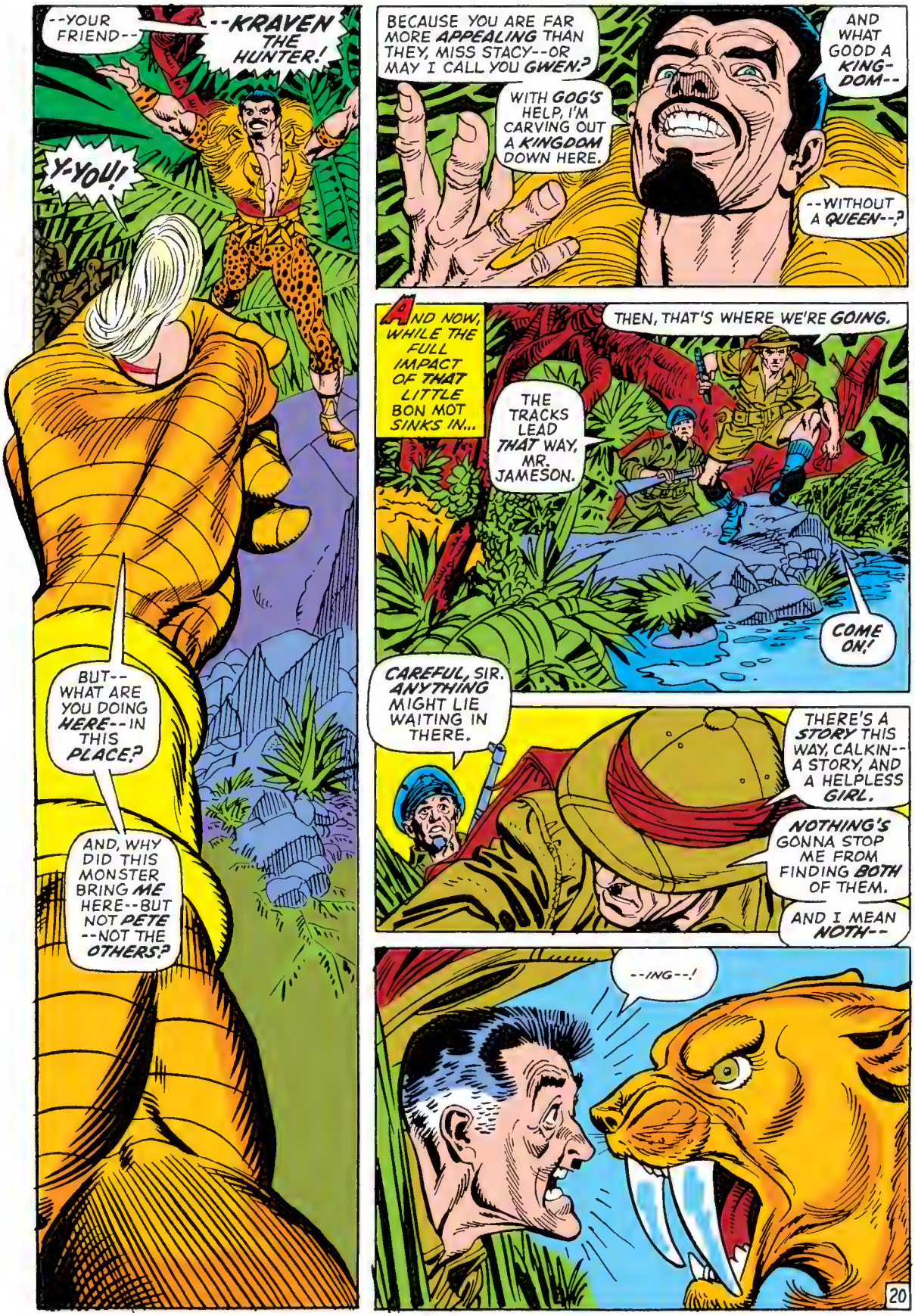

--BUT THE LIZARD-IDOL ITSELF!
IT REPRESENTS SOMETHING TO THEM--AND THEY'RE NOT SURE THEY SHOULD COME ANY CLOSER.
WELL--IT SURE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE KA-ZAR!
BUT, IF THAT JUNGLE MAN DIDN'T BUILD IT--THEN WHO DID?
NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT THAT NOW!
THEY SEEM TO HAVE MADE UP THEIR MINDS.
THEY'RE SLOWLY EDGING CLOSER... CLOSER...
GET OUT YOUR PISTOL, LAD.
WE'LL TAKE A LOT OF 'EM WITH US.
I CAN DO A WHOLE LOT BETTER IF I USE MY SPIDER POWERS--AND THAT'S JUST WHAT I'M GONNA DO.
ONLY THING IS--I'M NOT EXACTLY SPEAR-PROOF.
UH OH! LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE GONNA CHARGE--
--NOW!
THEN, SUDDENLY, AS TRIGGER-FINGERS TIGHTEN... AND PETER PARKER'S FISTS CLENCH...
THEY'VE STOPPED! THEY'RE GAZING IN TERROR AT SOMETHING BEYOND THE IDOL--BUT WHAT--?
OH NO! NO!
GOOD LORD!!
ZODAN! BROD WOMTÅ GOG! GOG!
15.

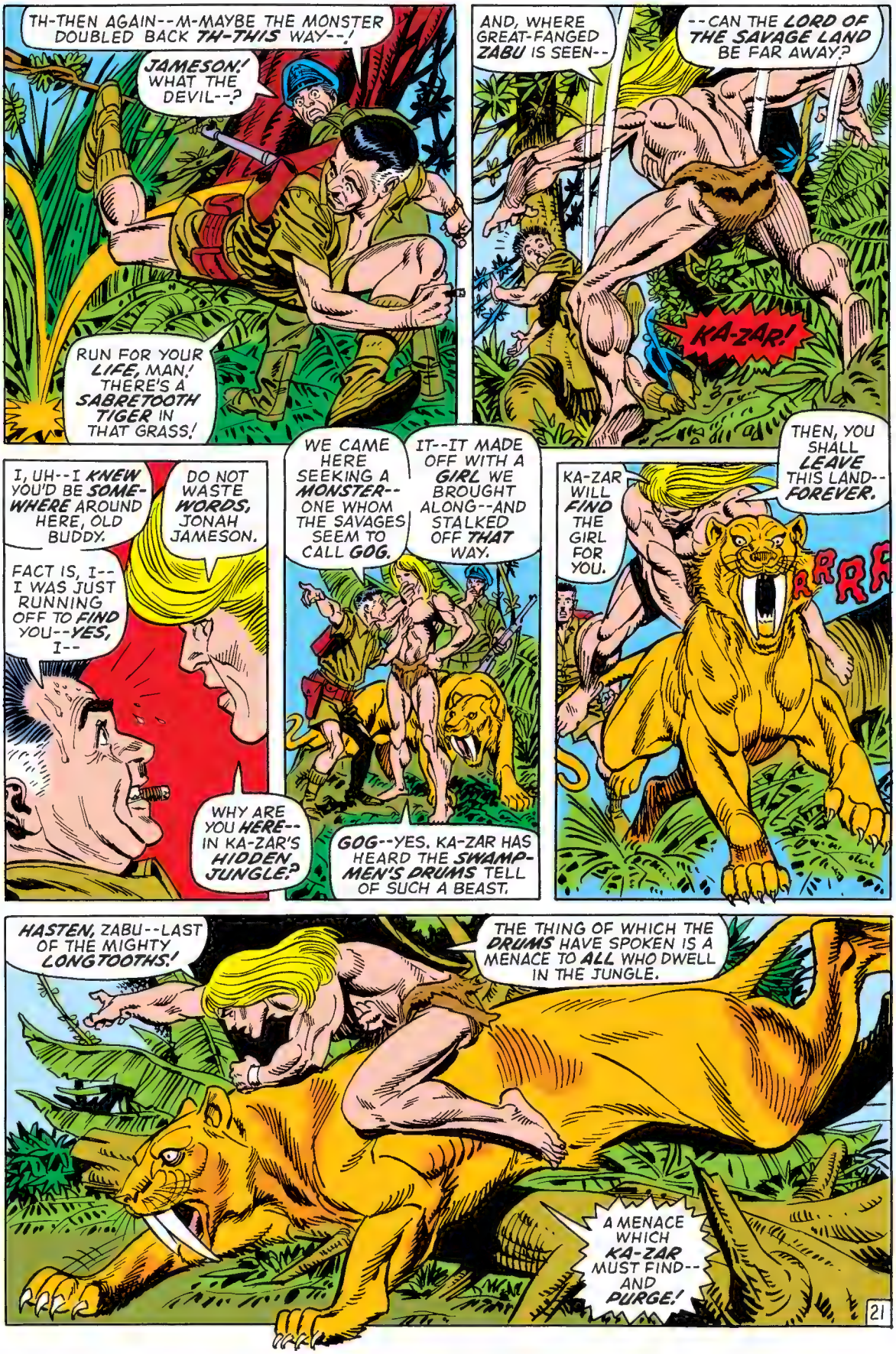
AND NOW, A VISION TO FREEZE THE BLOOD, AND TURN THE KNEES TO LIMPID JELLY...A ROAR THAT IS NOT A ROAR, BUT A THUNDEROUS CRY...AN INHUMAN OUTPOURING OF RAGE AND HATRED IN A TONGUE NO HUMAN EAR COULD E'ER DECIPHER...OR LONG ENDURE...!
ZYRT!
16

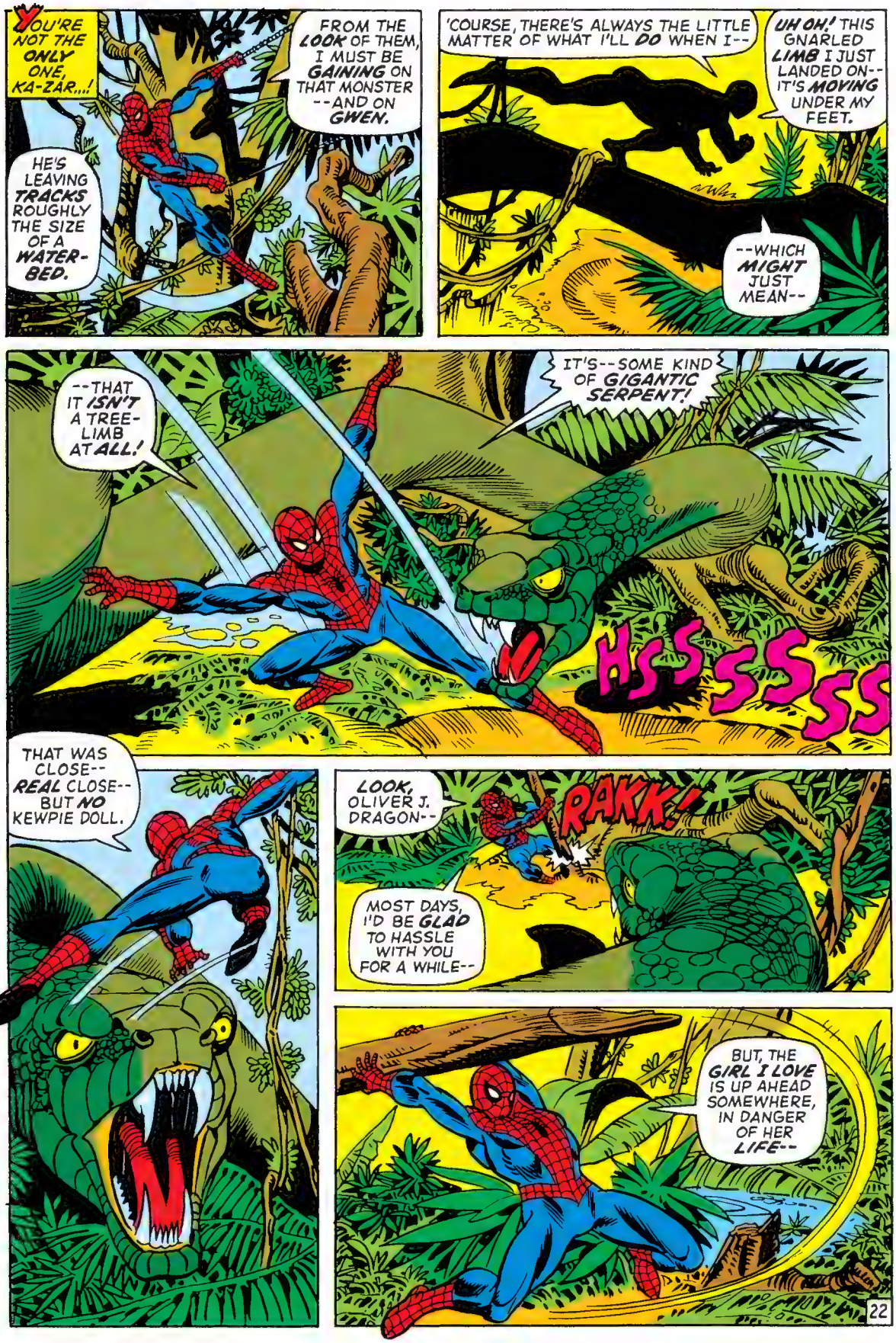

MOUTHS OPEN TO SCREAM...TO GIVE VOICE, ANY VOICE, TO THE FEAR THAT CLAWS FROM WITHIN.. YET NO WORDS WILL THOSE TREMBLING LIPS FORM, UNTIL...
PETE-- THAT HAND-- THAT HAND!
IT'S-- REACHING, GWEN--
REACHING FOR YOU!
EEEEEEEEEEEEE
BLAM!
LET GO OF HER, BLAST YOU!
LET-- HER-- GO!
BDAM! AM
BD
DON'T SHOOT! HE'S GOT GWEN.
WHATEVER YOU DO-- DON'T SHOOT!!
OUR SHOTS-- BOUNCING OFF THAT THING'S HIDE LIKE RAIN-DROPS--!
BUT THEN, WHAT CAN WE--
HEY! WHERE THE DEVIL ARE YOU--?
HE'S GOT OUR GAS BOMBS! HE'S GONNA TRY GETTING CLOSE TO THAT BEAST-- TO GAS HIM!
LIKE BLAZES I AM! ALL I WANT IS--A SMOKE SCREEN.
I WON'T TOSS THEM CLOSE ENOUGH TO TAKE A CHANCE OF HARMING GWEN--
--JUST TO CON-FUSE THAT MONSTER--TILL I CAN TAKE A FLYING LEAP AT IT!
ANOTHER FEW FEET, AND--

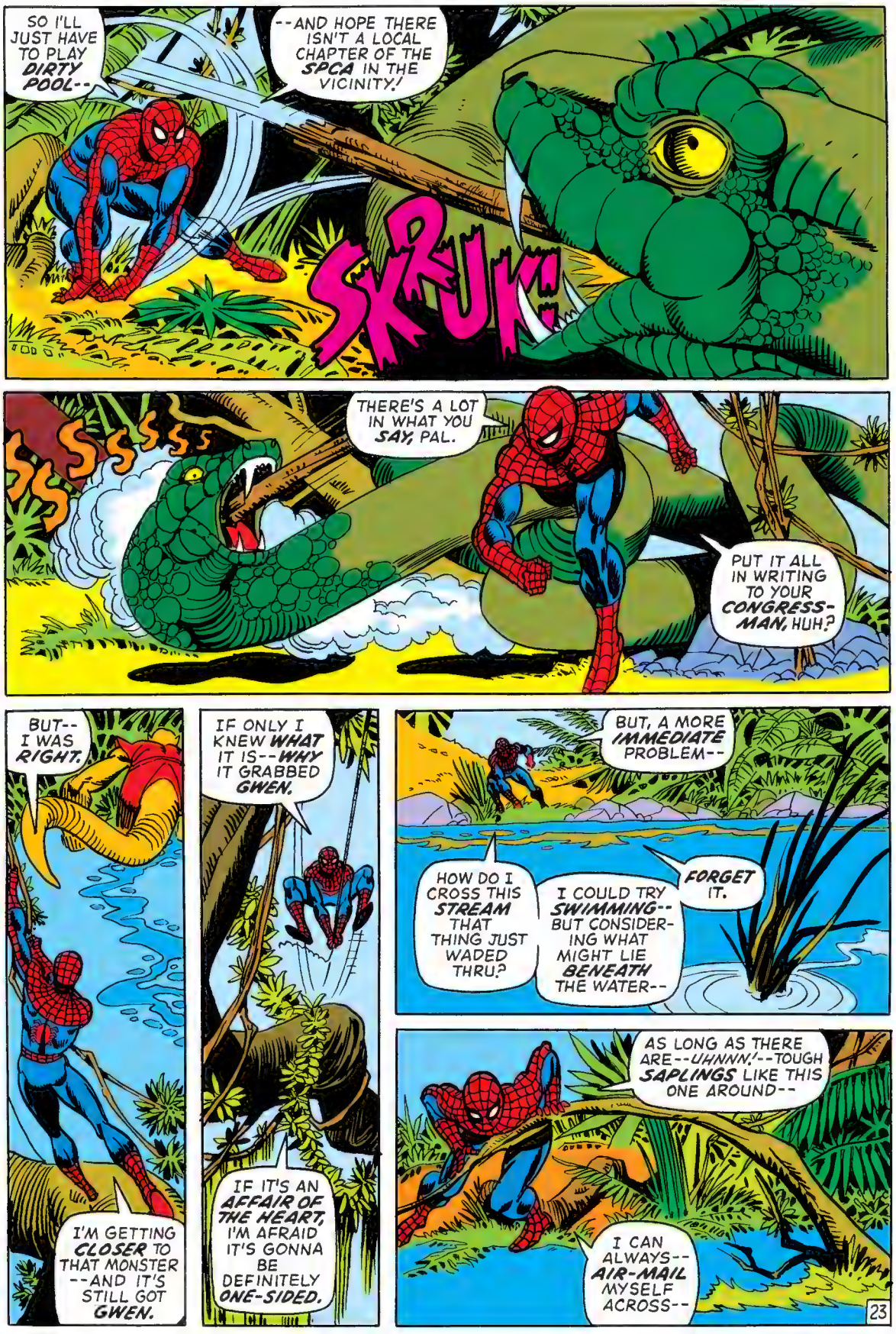
WHAM!
G-GOOD LORD IN HEAVEN--!
STOP HIM!
HE--HE'S TOPPLING OVER THAT CLIFF--
--AND INTO THE RIVER BELOW!
THE MONSTER'S GONE! THEN--WE'VE GOT TO GET DOWN-- FIND THE BOY--
NO! HE'D WANT US--TO GO AFTER GWEN.
AND MAYBE-- MAYBE I WASN'T EVER MUCH OF A BOSS--
--BUT MAYBE, WITH YOUR HELP, I CAN MAKE IT-- AS AN AVENGER.
LET'S... GO...!
AH, BUT IF YOU HAD WAITED A FEW MOMENTS MORE, JONAH... IF YOU HAD BUT SEEN...
A... GNAT...!
I WAS BRACED FOR THAT BLOW. I WAS READY FOR IT.
AND HE SWATTED ME ASIDE-- LIKE I WAS A GNAT!

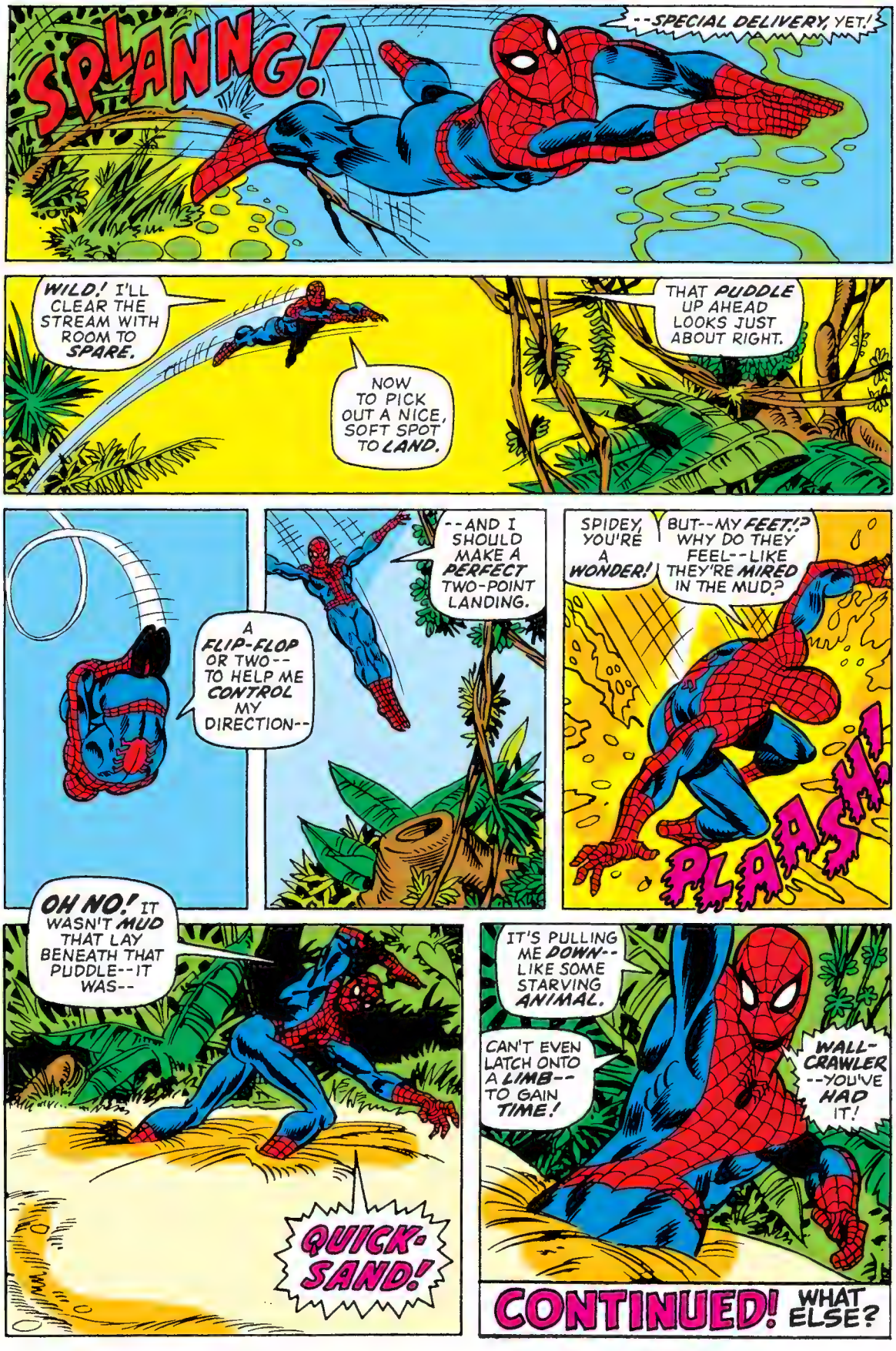

WHAT'S MORE--THAT THING WAS WEARING --CLOTHES.
IT'S SOME SORT OF INTELLIGENT BEING--BUT IT'S GOT GWEN--SO WHATEVER IT IS--WHEREVER IT CAME FROM--
--I'M GONNA FIND IT--AND MAKE IT PAY!
GOOD THING I PLAYED A HUNCH--WORE MY COSTUME UNDER THESE THREADS.
OF COURSE, ONCE SPIDEY'S SEEN WINGIN' IT DOWN HERE--IT'S BYE-BYE SECRET IDENTITY.
BUT GWEN'S LIFE MAY BE AT STAKE--
--SO THE DEVIL WITH IT!
JUST THEN, FROM ASTONISHINGLY FAR-OFF, PETE HEARS...
EEEEEEEE
KA-BOOM
YOU MAY CEASE THOSE INCOHERENT GRUNTINGS, GOG--AND YOU, YOUNG LADY, YOUR SCREAMS.
BOTH THE SAVAGES--AND THE INTRUDERS--HAVE BEEN LEFT FAR BEHIND.
YOUR FRIEND IS HERE NOW, GOG--
19


--YOUR FRIEND--
--KRAVEN THE HUNTER!
Y-YOU!
BUT--WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE--IN THIS PLACE?
AND, WHY DID THIS MONSTER BRING ME HERE--BUT NOT PETE --NOT THE OTHERS?
BECAUSE YOU ARE FAR MORE APPEALING THAN THEY, MISS STACY--OR MAY I CALL YOU GWEN?
WITH GOG'S HELP, I'M CARVING OUT A KINGDOM DOWN HERE.
AND WHAT GOOD A KINGDOM--
--WITHOUT A QUEEN--?
AND NOW, WHILE THE FULL IMPACT OF THAT LITTLE BON MOT SINKS IN...
THEN, THAT'S WHERE WE'RE GOING.
THE TRACKS LEAD THAT WAY, MR. JAMESON.
COME ON!
CAREFUL, SIR. ANYTHING MIGHT LIE WAITING IN THERE.
THERE'S A STORY THIS WAY, CALKIN--A STORY, AND A HELPLESS GIRL.
NOTHING'S GONNA STOP ME FROM FINDING BOTH OF THEM.
AND I MEAN NOTH--
--ING--!


TH-THEN AGAIN--M-MAYBE THE MONSTER DOUBLED BACK TH-THIS WAY--!
JAMESON! WHAT THE DEVIL--?
RUN FOR YOUR LIFE, MAN! THERE'S A SABRETOOTH TIGER IN THAT GRASS!
AND, WHERE GREAT-FANGED ZABU IS SEEN--
--CAN THE LORD OF THE SAVAGE LAND BE FAR AWAY?
KA-ZAR!
I, UH--I KNEW YOU'D BE SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE, OLD BUDDY.
DO NOT WASTE WORDS, JONAH JAMESON.
FACT IS, I--I WAS JUST RUNNING OFF TO FIND YOU--YES, I--
WHY ARE YOU HERE--IN KA-ZAR'S HIDDEN JUNGLE?
WE CAME HERE SEEKING A MONSTER--ONE WHOM THE SAVAGES SEEM TO CALL GOG.
IT--IT MADE OFF WITH A GIRL WE BROUGHT ALONG--AND STALKED OFF THAT WAY.
GOG--YES. KA-ZAR HAS HEARD THE SWAMP-MEN'S DRUMS TELL OF SUCH A BEAST.
KA-ZAR WILL FIND THE GIRL FOR YOU.
THEN, YOU SHALL LEAVE THIS LAND--FOREVER.
RRR
HASTEN, ZABU--LAST OF THE MIGHTY LONGTOOTHS!
THE THING OF WHICH THE DRUMS HAVE SPOKEN IS A MENACE TO ALL WHO DWELL IN THE JUNGLE.
A MENACE WHICH KA-ZAR MUST FIND--AND PURGE!
21


YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE, KA-ZAR...!
HE'S LEAVING TRACKS ROUGHLY THE SIZE OF A WATER-BED.
FROM THE LOOK OF THEM, I MUST BE GAINING ON THAT MONSTER --AND ON GWEN.
'COURSE, THERE'S ALWAYS THE LITTLE MATTER OF WHAT I'LL DO WHEN I--
UH OH! THIS GNARLED LIMB I JUST LANDED ON-- IT'S MOVING UNDER MY FEET.
--WHICH MIGHT JUST MEAN--
--THAT IT ISN'T A TREE-LIMB AT ALL!
IT'S--SOME KIND OF GIGANTIC SERPENT!
HSSSSSSS
THAT WAS CLOSE-- REAL CLOSE-- BUT NO KEWPIE DOLL.
LOOK, OLIVER J. DRAGON--
RAKK!
MOST DAYS, I'D BE GLAD TO HASSLE WITH YOU FOR A WHILE--
BUT, THE GIRL I LOVE IS UP AHEAD SOMEWHERE, IN DANGER OF HER LIFE--


SO I'LL JUST HAVE TO PLAY DIRTY POOL--
--AND HOPE THERE ISN'T A LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE SPCA IN THE VICINITY!
SKRUK!
THERE'S A LOT IN WHAT YOU SAY, PAL.
PUT IT ALL IN WRITING TO YOUR CONGRESS-MAN, HUH?
BUT-- I WAS RIGHT.
I'M GETTING CLOSER TO THAT MONSTER --AND IT'S STILL GOT GWEN.
IF ONLY I KNEW WHAT IT IS--WHY IT GRABBED GWEN.
IF IT'S AN AFFAIR OF THE HEART, I'M AFRAID IT'S GONNA BE DEFINITELY ONE-SIDED.
BUT, A MORE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM--
HOW DO I CROSS THIS STREAM THAT THING JUST WADED THRU?
I COULD TRY SWIMMING-- BUT CONSIDER-ING WHAT MIGHT LIE BENEATH THE WATER--
FORGET IT.
AS LONG AS THERE ARE--UHNNN!--TOUGH SAPLINGS LIKE THIS ONE AROUND--
I CAN ALWAYS-- AIR-MAIL MYSELF ACROSS--


SPLANNG!
--SPECIAL DELIVERY, YET!
WILD! I'LL CLEAR THE STREAM WITH ROOM TO SPARE.
NOW TO PICK OUT A NICE, SOFT SPOT TO LAND.
THAT PUDDLE UP AHEAD LOOKS JUST ABOUT RIGHT.
A FLIP-FLOP OR TWO--TO HELP ME CONTROL MY DIRECTION--
--AND I SHOULD MAKE A PERFECT TWO-POINT LANDING.
SPIDEY, YOU'RE A WONDER!
BUT--MY FEET!? WHY DO THEY FEEL--LIKE THEY'RE MIRED IN THE MUD?
PLAASH!
OH NO! IT WASN'T MUD THAT LAY BENEATH THAT PUDDLE--IT WAS--
QUICK-SAND!
IT'S PULLING ME DOWN--LIKE SOME STARVING ANIMAL.
CAN'T EVEN LATCH ONTO A LIMB--TO GAIN TIME!
WALL-CRAWLER --YOU'VE HAD IT!
CONTINUED! WHAT ELSE?

SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL COMICS GROUP™
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104 JAN 02457
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
IS THIS TO BE THE FINAL HUNT?
KRAVEN THE HUNTER!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™

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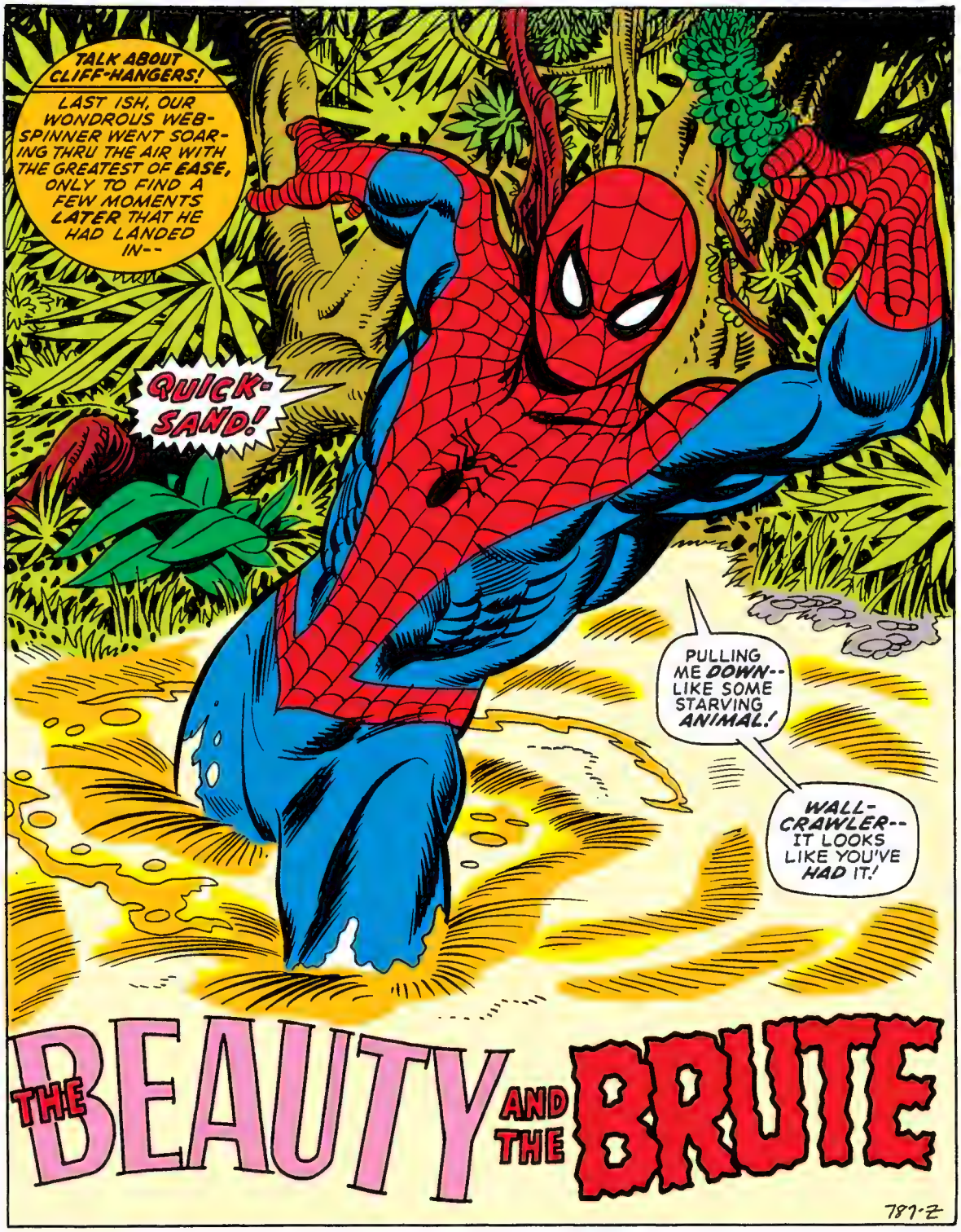
TALK ABOUT CLIFF-HANGERS!
LAST ISH, OUR WONDROUS WEB-SPINNER WENT SOARING THRU THE AIR WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE, ONLY TO FIND A FEW MOMENTS LATER THAT HE HAD LANDED IN--
QUICK-SAND!
PULLING ME DOWN-- LIKE SOME STARVING ANIMAL!
WALL-CRAWLER-- IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE HAD IT!
THE BEAUTY AND THE BRUTE
781-Z

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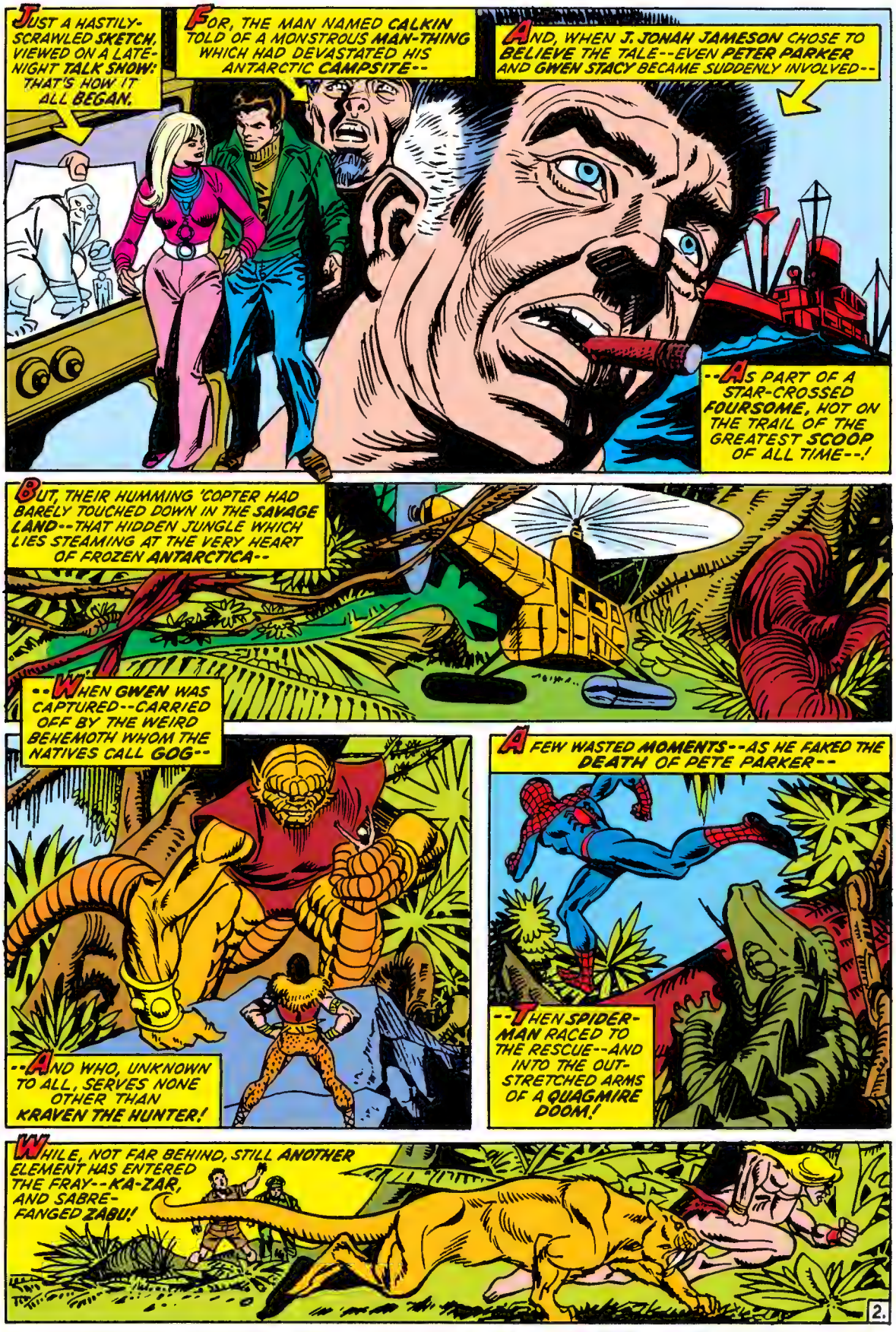
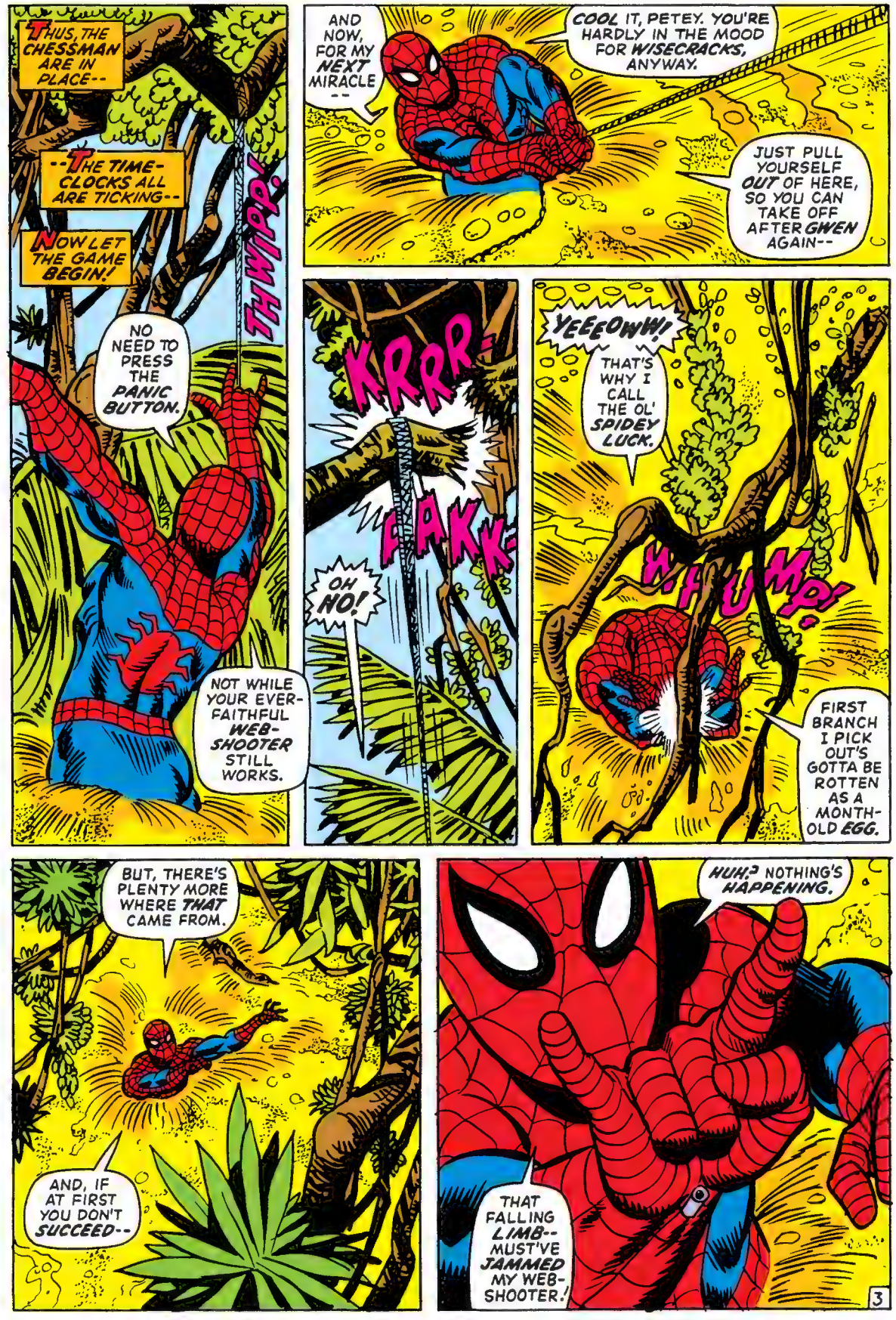
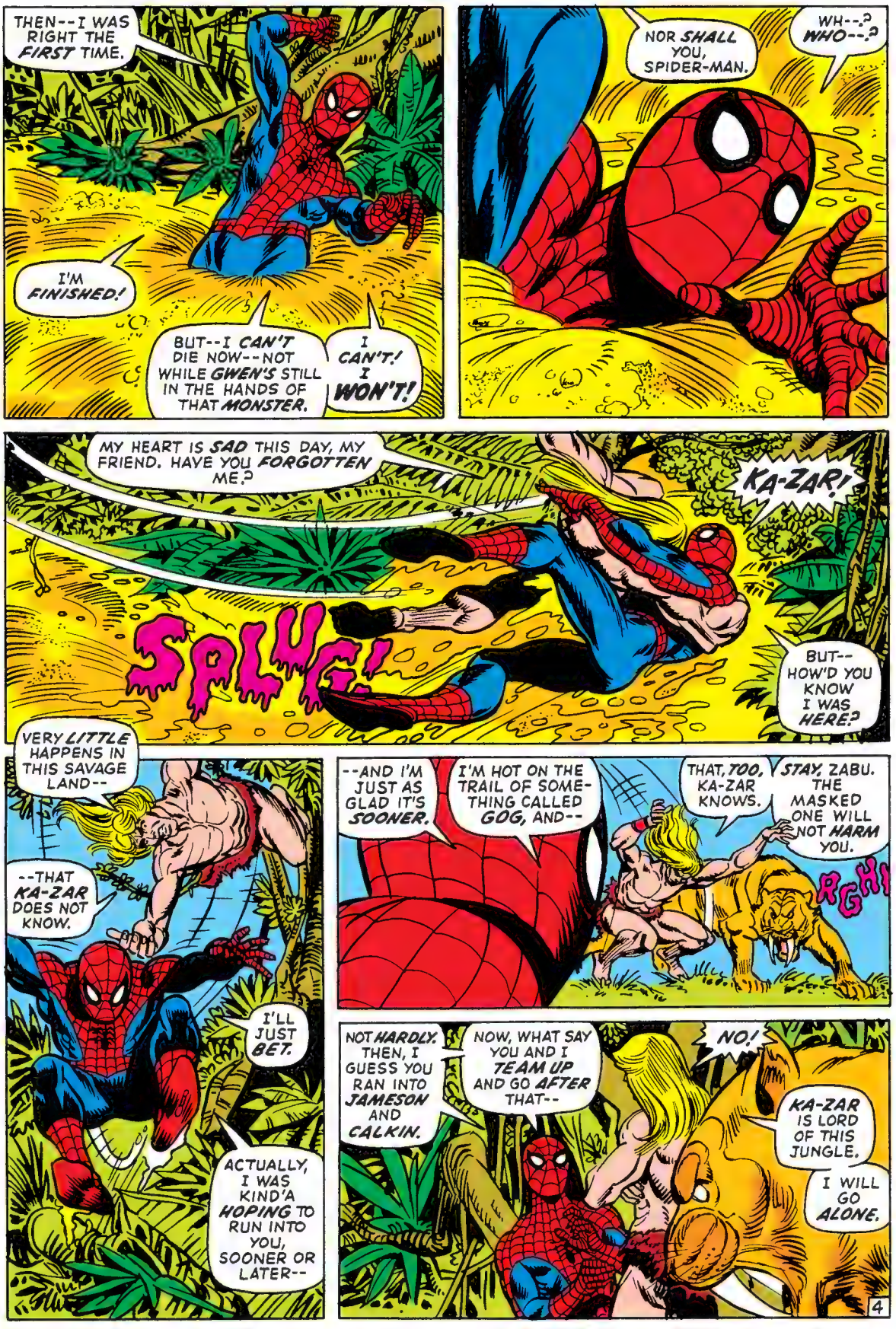
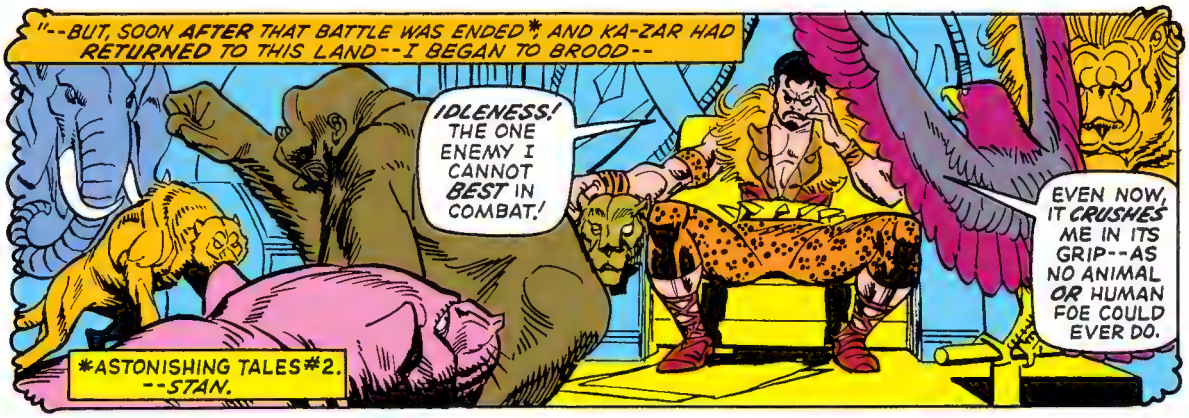

JUST A HASTILY-SCRAWLED SKETCH, VIEWED ON A LATE-NIGHT TALK SHOW: THAT'S HOW IT ALL BEGAN.
FOR, THE MAN NAMED CALKIN TOLD OF A MONSTROUS MAN-THING WHICH HAD DEVASTATED HIS ANTARCTIC CAMPSITE--
AND, WHEN J. JONAH JAMESON CHOSE TO BELIEVE THE TALE--EVEN PETER PARKER AND GWEN STACY BECAME SUDDENLY INVOLVED--
--AS PART OF A STAR-CROSSED FOURSOME, HOT ON THE TRAIL OF THE GREATEST SCOOP OF ALL TIME--!
BUT, THEIR HUMMING 'COPTER HAD BARELY TOUCHED DOWN IN THE SAVAGE LAND--THAT HIDDEN JUNGLE WHICH LIES STEAMING AT THE VERY HEART OF FROZEN ANTARCTICA--
--WHEN GWEN WAS CAPTURED--CARRIED OFF BY THE WEIRD BEHEMOTH WHOM THE NATIVES CALL GOG--
--AND WHO, UNKNOWN TO ALL, SERVES NONE OTHER THAN KRAVEN THE HUNTER!
A FEW WASTED MOMENTS--AS HE FAKED THE DEATH OF PETE PARKER--
--THEN SPIDER-MAN RACED TO THE RESCUE--AND INTO THE OUT-STRETCHED ARMS OF A QUAGMIRE DOOM!
WHILE, NOT FAR BEHIND, STILL ANOTHER ELEMENT HAS ENTERED THE FRAY--KA-ZAR, AND SABRE-FANGED ZABU!
2.

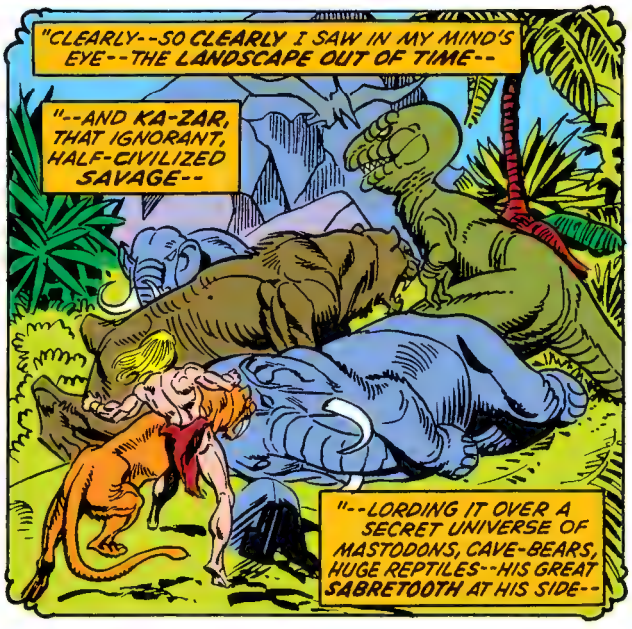

THUS, THE CHESSMAN ARE IN PLACE--
--THE TIME-CLOCKS ALL ARE TICKING--
NOW LET THE GAME BEGIN!
THWIPP!
NO NEED TO PRESS THE PANIC BUTTON.
NOT WHILE YOUR EVER-FAITHFUL WEB-SHOOTER STILL WORKS.
AND NOW, FOR MY NEXT MIRACLE --
COOL IT, PETEY. YOU'RE HARDLY IN THE MOOD FOR WISECRACKS, ANYWAY.
JUST PULL YOURSELF OUT OF HERE, SO YOU CAN TAKE OFF AFTER GWEN AGAIN--
KRRR-
FAKK-
OH NO!
YEEEOWW!
THAT'S WHY I CALL THE OL' SPIDEY LUCK.
WHUMP!
FIRST BRANCH I PICK OUT'S GOTTA BE ROTTEN AS A MONTH-OLD EGG.
BUT, THERE'S PLENTY MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM.
AND, IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED--
HUH? NOTHING'S HAPPENING.
THAT FALLING LIMB-- MUST'VE JAMMED MY WEB-SHOOTER!
3


THEN--I WAS RIGHT THE FIRST TIME.
I'M FINISHED!
BUT--I CAN'T DIE NOW--NOT WHILE GWEN'S STILL IN THE HANDS OF THAT MONSTER.
I CAN'T! I WON'T!
NOR SHALL YOU, SPIDER-MAN.
WH--? WHO--?
MY HEART IS SAD THIS DAY, MY FRIEND. HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN ME?
SPLUG!
KA-ZAR!
BUT--HOW'D YOU KNOW I WAS HERE?
VERY LITTLE HAPPENS IN THIS SAVAGE LAND--
--THAT KA-ZAR DOES NOT KNOW.
I'LL JUST BET.
ACTUALLY, I WAS KIND'A HOPING TO RUN INTO YOU, SOONER OR LATER--
--AND I'M JUST AS GLAD IT'S SOONER.
I'M HOT ON THE TRAIL OF SOMETHING CALLED GOG, AND--
THAT, TOO, KA-ZAR KNOWS.
STAY, ZABU. THE MASKED ONE WILL NOT HARM YOU.
RGH!
NOT HARDLY. THEN, I GUESS YOU RAN INTO JAMESON AND CALKIN.
NOW, WHAT SAY YOU AND I TEAM UP AND GO AFTER THAT--
NO!
KA-ZAR IS LORD OF THIS JUNGLE.
I WILL GO ALONE.
4

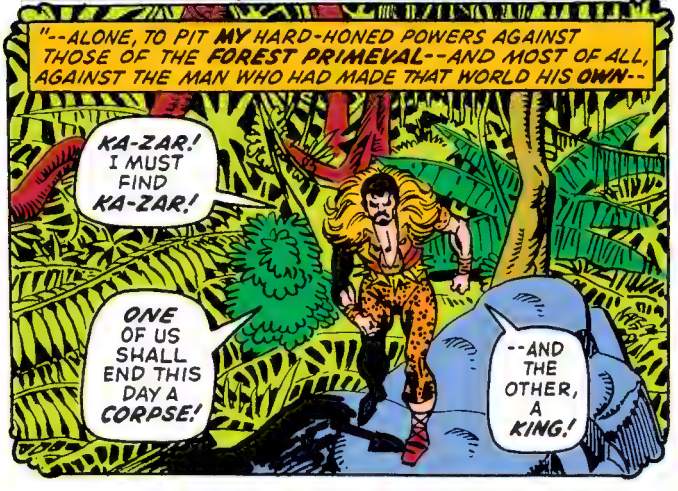
WHAT? NOT A CHANCE, BUDDY. THAT THING'S GOT GWEN WITH HIM--
SO I'M GOING AFTER HIM--IF I HAVE TO WADE THRU YOU AND YOUR BUCK-TOOTHED PUSSYCAT.
HOLD, MY FRIEND, DO NOT LASH OUT IN ANGER.
I SEE NOW THE FEMALE WHOM GOG HAS TAKEN--MEANS MORE TO YOU THAN LIFE ITSELF.
THAT'S ONE CORNBALL WAY OF PUTTING IT.
I MERELY WISHED TO SPARE YOU THE DANGERS WHICH LIE BEFORE US.
ZABU CAN TRACK DOWN THE MONSTER WE SEEK--
BUT THE WAY LIES THRU DEATH-INFESTED SWAMP.
THEN LET US GO.
YET, IF ONLY WE KNEW WHY HE STOLE THE ONE CALLED GWEN--
MISTER, I DON'T CARE IF THERE'S A HERD OF TYRANNOSAURUS REX IN OUR WAY.
HE'S GOT THE GIRL I LOVE--SO I'M GETTING HIM.
AND NOW, JUST IN CASE YOU'VE FORGOTTEN THE CLUES WE TOSSED AT YOU LAST ISH--
DON'T BE ALARMED, GWEN STACY.
FROM HIS TONE, I WOULD SAY THAT--GOG LIKES YOU.
THEN--KEEP HIM AWAY FROM ME--PLEASE.
YOU--YOU STILL HAVEN'T EXPLAINED--WHAT KRAVEN THE HUNTER IS DOING HERE.
YOU AMUSE ME, WOMAN. I KNOW YOU MERELY STALL FOR TIME.
BUT WHO DO YOU THINK SHALL BE YOUR SHINING WHITE KNIGHT?
CALKIN.? THAT FOOL JAMESON?
STILL, BECAUSE I'VE CHOSEN YOU FOR MY MATE--IT IS GOOD THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW.
YOU SEE--I ONCE BATTLED KA-ZAR--THE SELF-PROCLAIMED RULER OF THIS LOST WORLD--
5

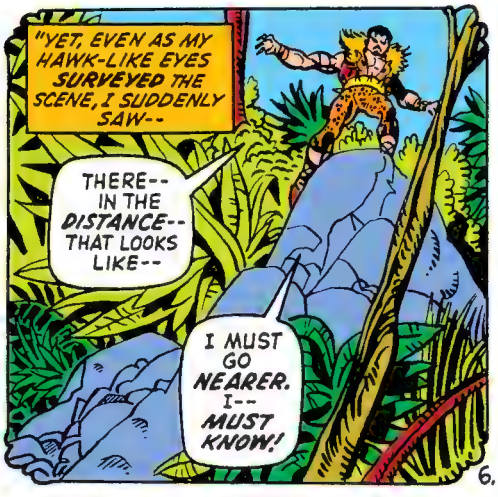

"--BUT, SOON AFTER THAT BATTLE WAS ENDED* AND KA-ZAR HAD RETURNED TO THIS LAND--I BEGAN TO BROOD--
IDLENESS! THE ONE ENEMY I CANNOT BEST IN COMBAT!
EVEN NOW, IT CRUSHES ME IN ITS GRIP--AS NO ANIMAL OR HUMAN FOE COULD EVER DO.
*ASTONISHING TALES #2. --STAN.

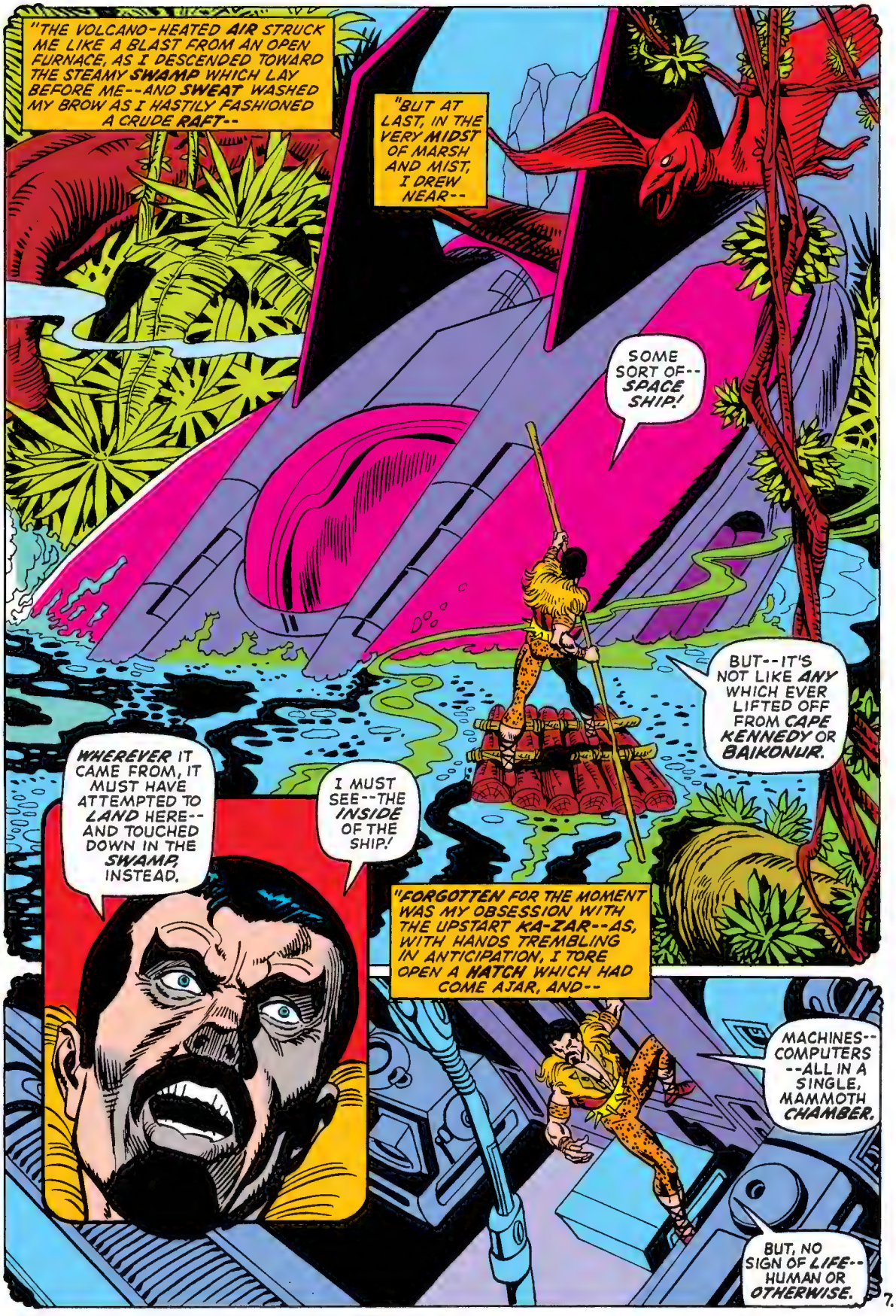
"THEN SUDDENLY, I COULD BEAR IT NO LONGER!
I AM MIGHTIER THAN KA-ZAR. I'M THE GREATEST HUNTSMAN OF ALL!
THE HIDDEN JUNGLE MUST BE MINE--
--AND MINE ONLY!

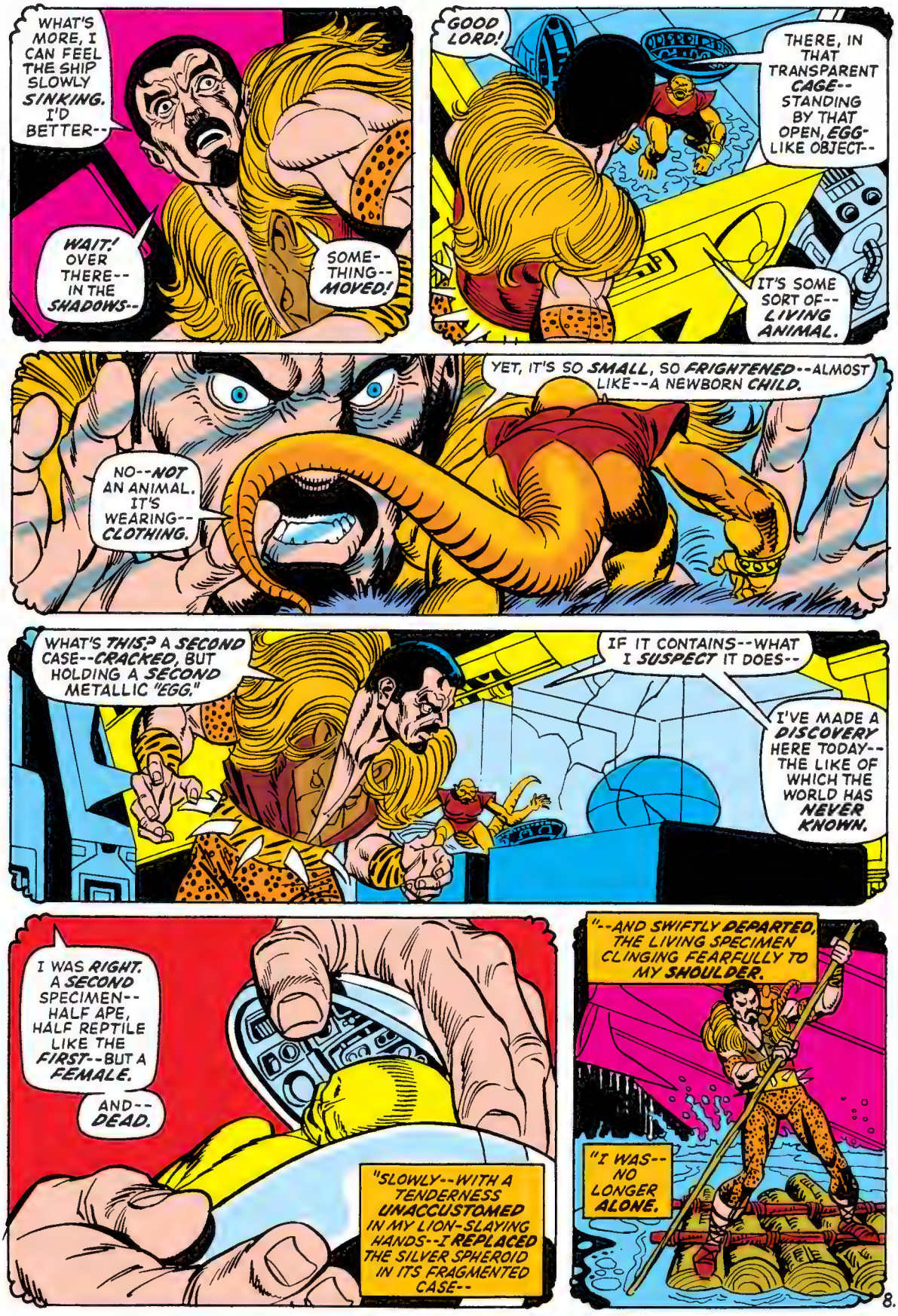

"CLEARLY--SO CLEARLY I SAW IN MY MIND'S EYE--THE LANDSCAPE OUT OF TIME--
"--AND KA-ZAR, THAT IGNORANT, HALF-CIVILIZED SAVAGE--
"--LORDING IT OVER A SECRET UNIVERSE OF MASTODONS, CAVE-BEARS, HUGE REPTILES--HIS GREAT SABRETOOTH AT HIS SIDE--

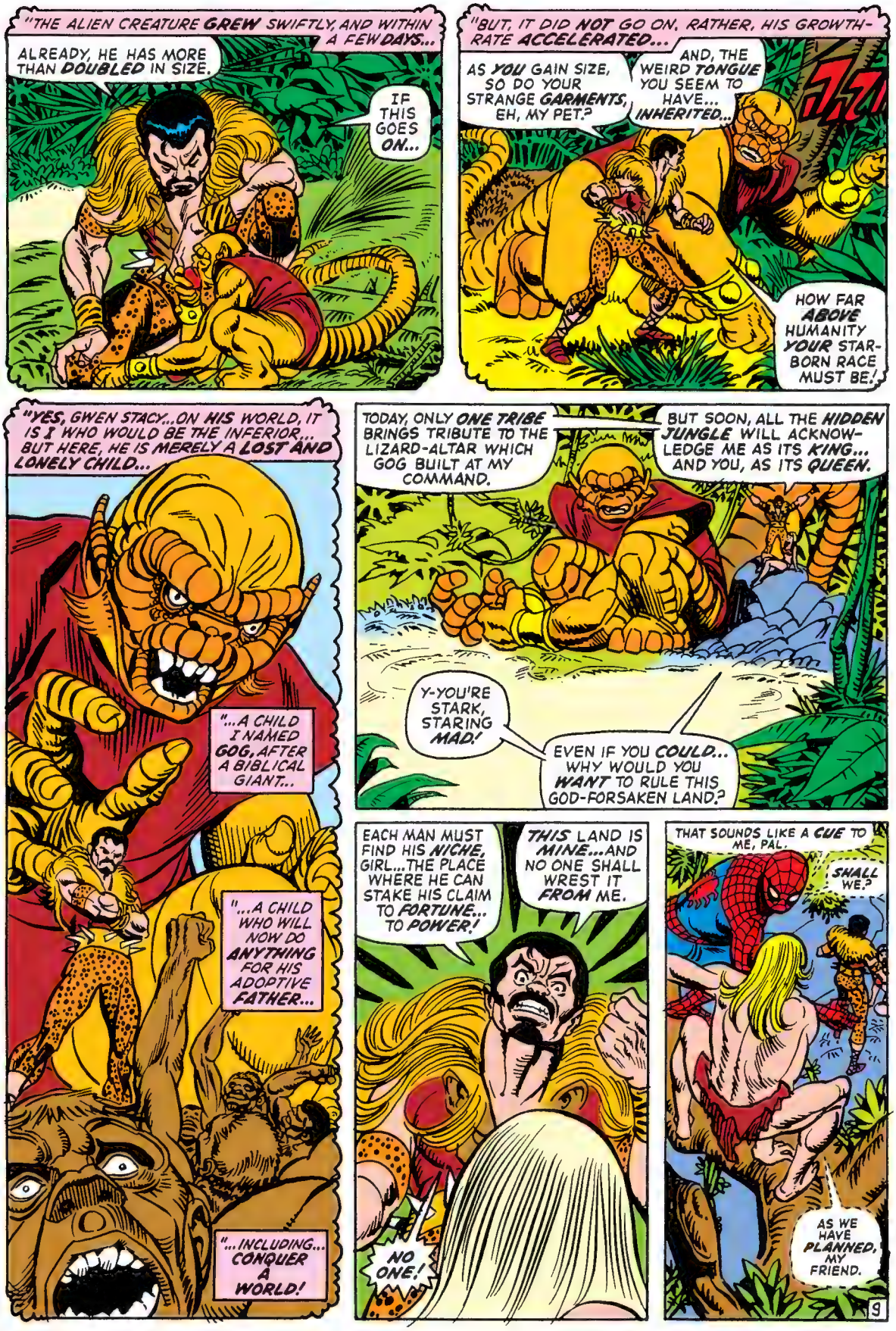
"AND SO, ONCE MORE I MADE THE LONG JOURNEY TO THAT ANTARCTIC LAND--
"BUT THIS TIME, I DID NOT WIND THRU FORGOTTEN WATERWAYS--BUT FLEW LIKE AN UNFETTERED EAGLE THRU THE MISTS WHICH SHROUD IT--
AND THIS TIME, I CAME NOT WITH MEN--BUT ALONE--

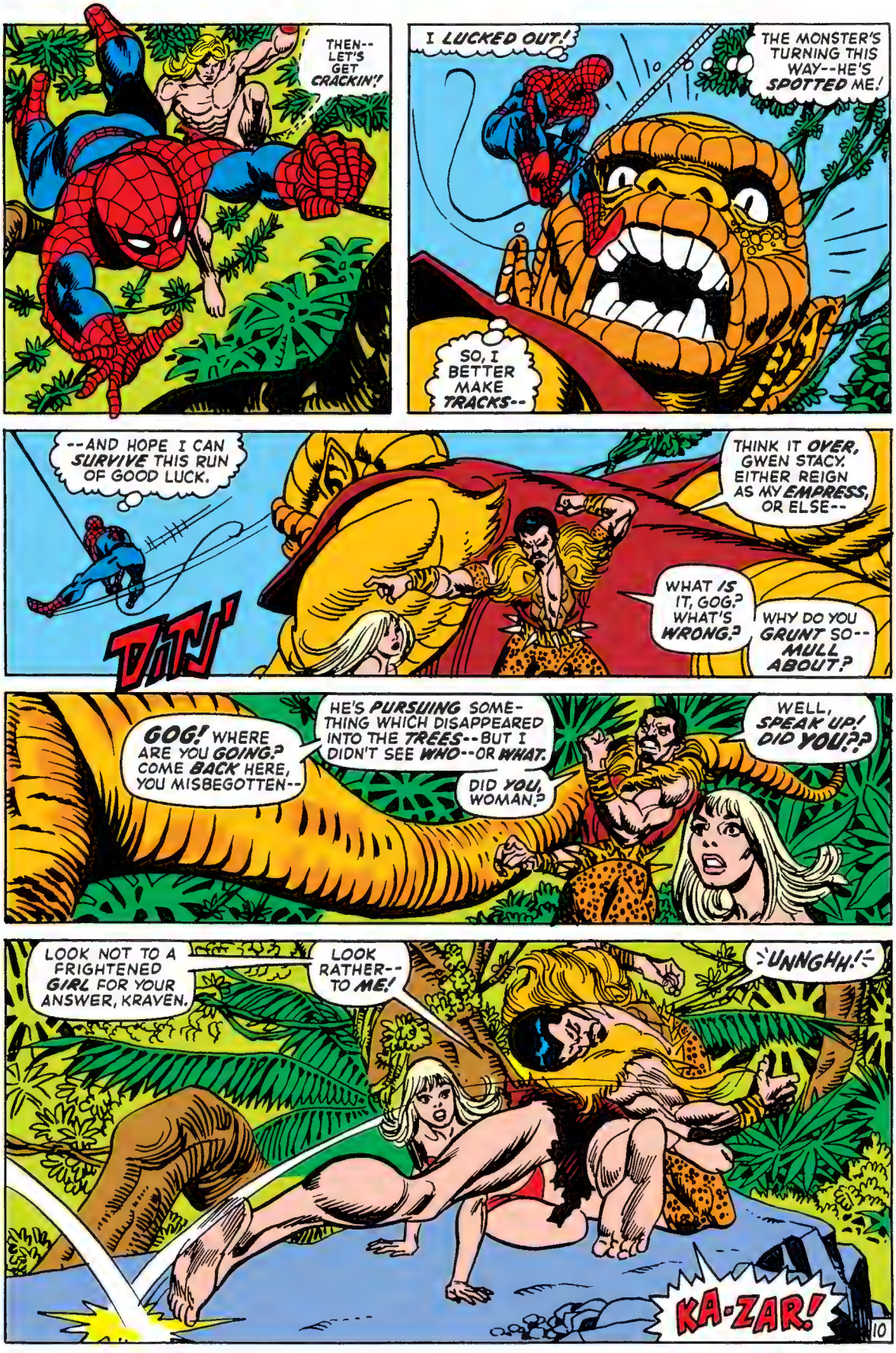

"--ALONE, TO PIT MY HARD-HONED POWERS AGAINST THOSE OF THE FOREST PRIMEVAL--AND MOST OF ALL, AGAINST THE MAN WHO HAD MADE THAT WORLD HIS OWN--
KA-ZAR! I MUST FIND KA-ZAR!
ONE OF US SHALL END THIS DAY A CORPSE!
--AND THE OTHER, A KING!

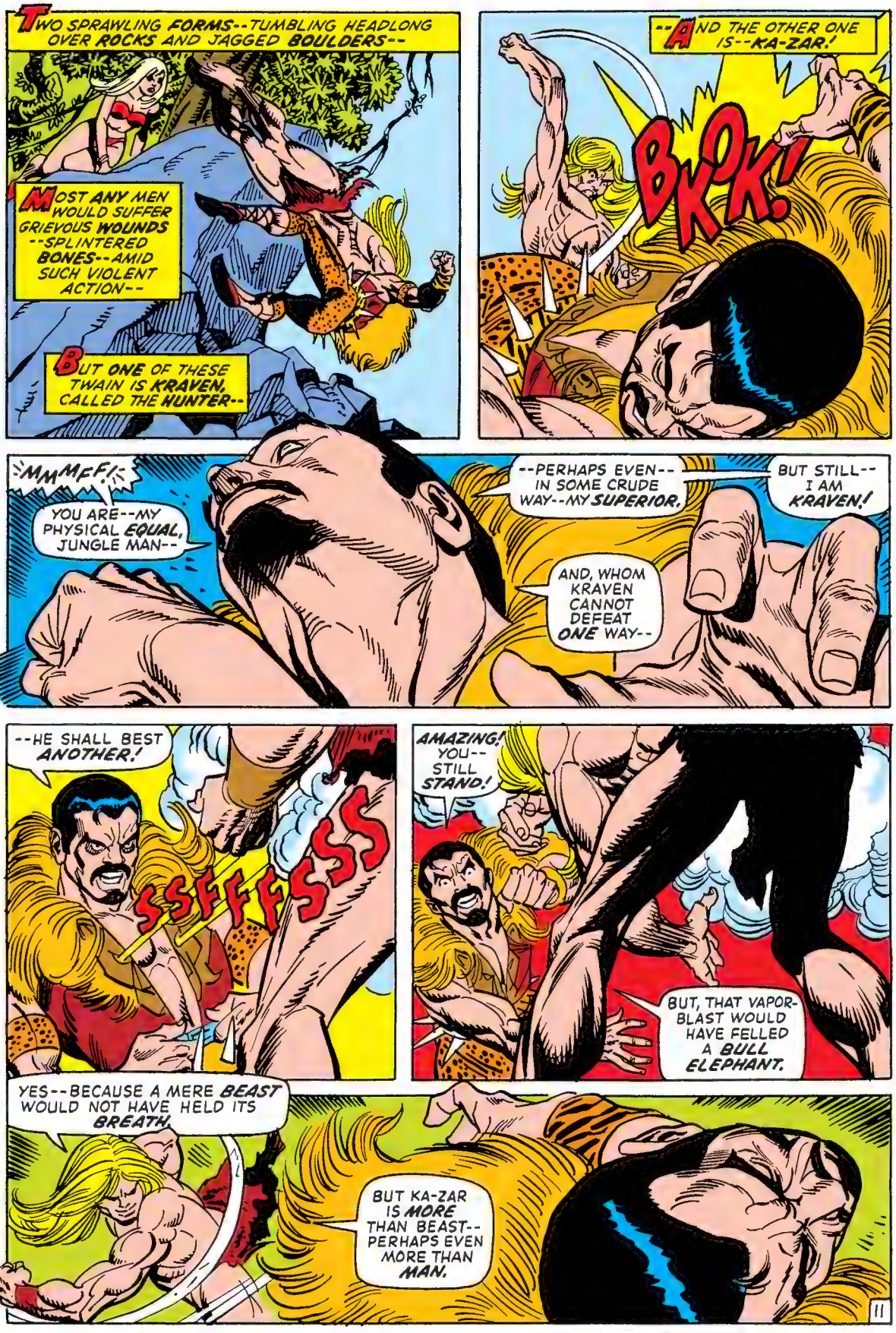

"YET, EVEN AS MY HAWK-LIKE EYES SURVEYED THE SCENE, I SUDDENLY SAW--
THERE--IN THE DISTANCE--THAT LOOKS LIKE--
I MUST GO NEARER. I--MUST KNOW!

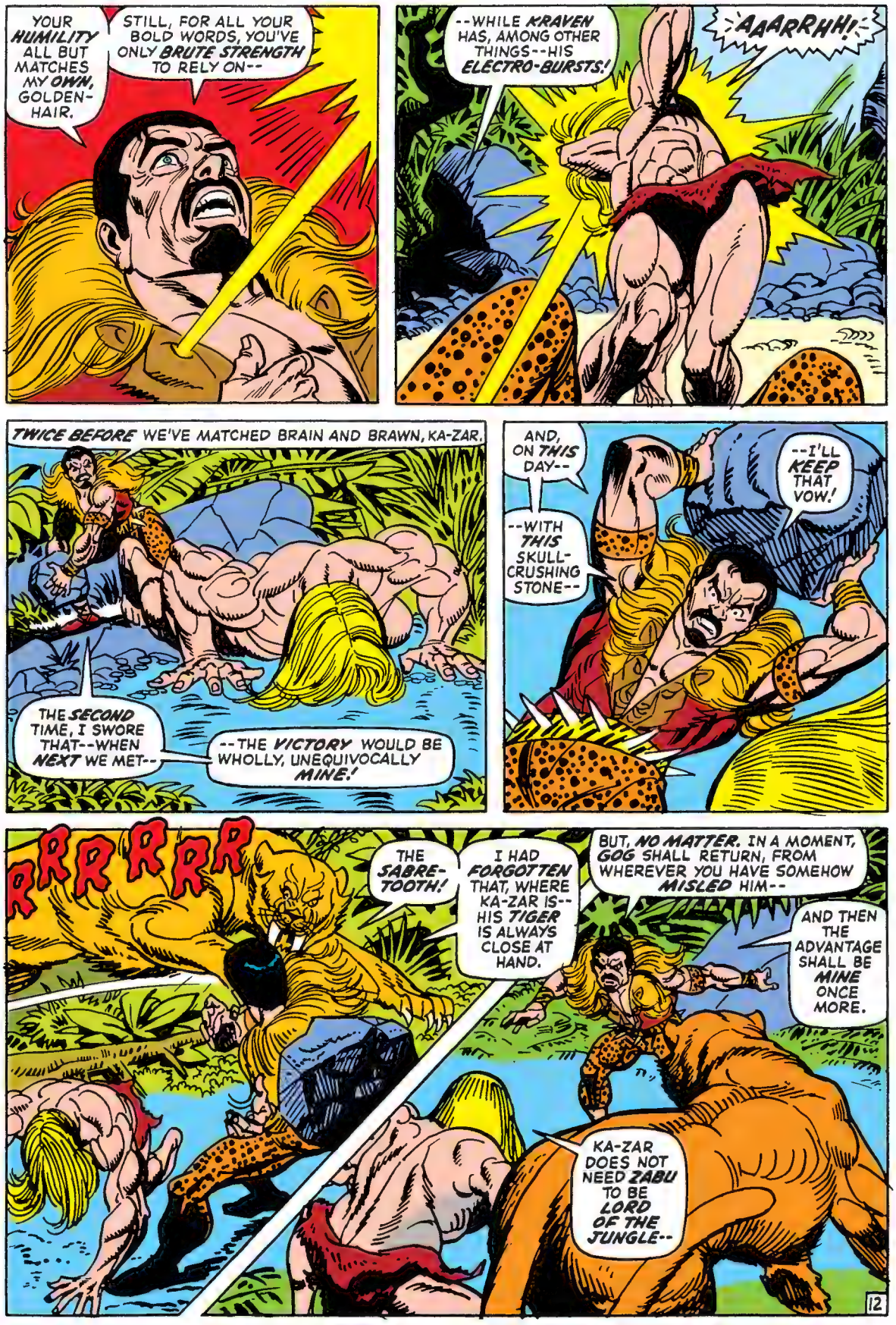

"THE VOLCANO-HEATED AIR STRUCK ME LIKE A BLAST FROM AN OPEN FURNACE, AS I DESCENDED TOWARD THE STEAMY SWAMP WHICH LAY BEFORE ME--AND SWEAT WASHED MY BROW AS I HASTILY FASHIONED A CRUDE RAFT--
"BUT AT LAST, IN THE VERY MIDST OF MARSH AND MIST, I DREW NEAR--
SOME SORT OF--SPACE SHIP!
BUT--IT'S NOT LIKE ANY WHICH EVER LIFTED OFF FROM CAPE KENNEDY OR BAIKONUR.
WHEREVER IT CAME FROM, IT MUST HAVE ATTEMPTED TO LAND HERE--AND TOUCHED DOWN IN THE SWAMP, INSTEAD.
I MUST SEE--THE INSIDE OF THE SHIP!
"FORGOTTEN FOR THE MOMENT WAS MY OBSESSION WITH THE UPSTART KA-ZAR--AS, WITH HANDS TREMBLING IN ANTICIPATION, I TORE OPEN A HATCH WHICH HAD COME AJAR, AND--
MACHINES--COMPUTERS--ALL IN A SINGLE, MAMMOTH CHAMBER.
BUT, NO SIGN OF LIFE--HUMAN OR OTHERWISE.

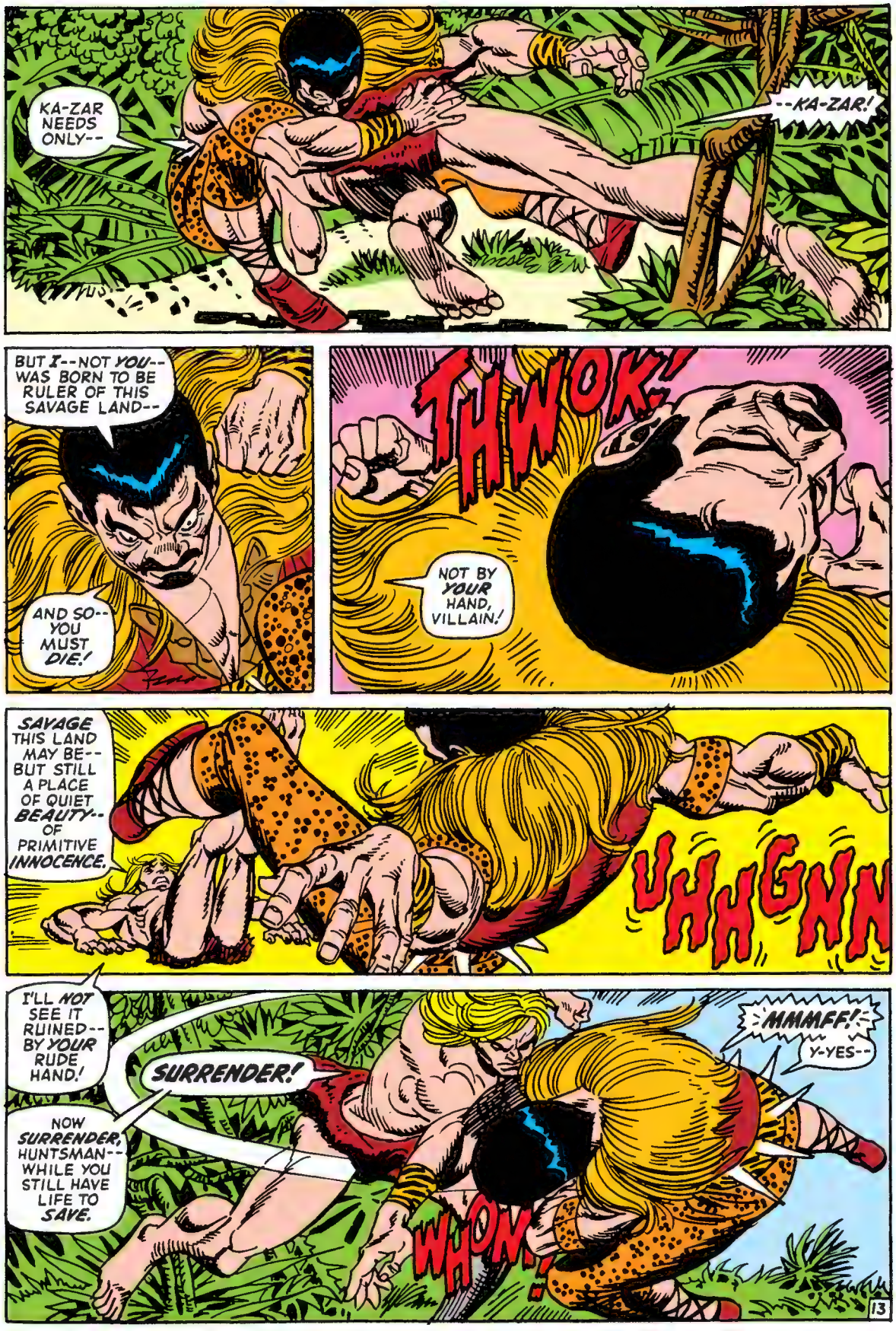

WHAT'S MORE, I CAN FEEL THE SHIP SLOWLY SINKING. I'D BETTER--
WAIT! OVER THERE--IN THE SHADOWS--
SOME-THING--MOVED!
GOOD LORD!
THERE, IN THAT TRANSPARENT CAGE--STANDING BY THAT OPEN, EGG-LIKE OBJECT--
IT'S SOME SORT OF--LIVING ANIMAL.
YET, IT'S SO SMALL, SO FRIGHTENED--ALMOST LIKE--A NEWBORN CHILD.
NO--NOT AN ANIMAL. IT'S WEARING--CLOTHING.
WHAT'S THIS? A SECOND CASE--CRACKED, BUT HOLDING A SECOND METALLIC "EGG."
IF IT CONTAINS--WHAT I SUSPECT IT DOES--
I'VE MADE A DISCOVERY HERE TODAY--THE LIKE OF WHICH THE WORLD HAS NEVER KNOWN.
I WAS RIGHT. A SECOND SPECIMEN--HALF APE, HALF REPTILE LIKE THE FIRST--BUT A FEMALE.
AND--DEAD.
"SLOWLY--WITH A TENDERNESS UNACCUSTOMED IN MY LION-SLAYING HANDS--I REPLACED THE SILVER SPHEROID IN ITS FRAGMENTED CASE--
"--AND SWIFTLY DEPARTED, THE LIVING SPECIMEN CLINGING FEARFULLY TO MY SHOULDER.
"I WAS--NO LONGER ALONE.

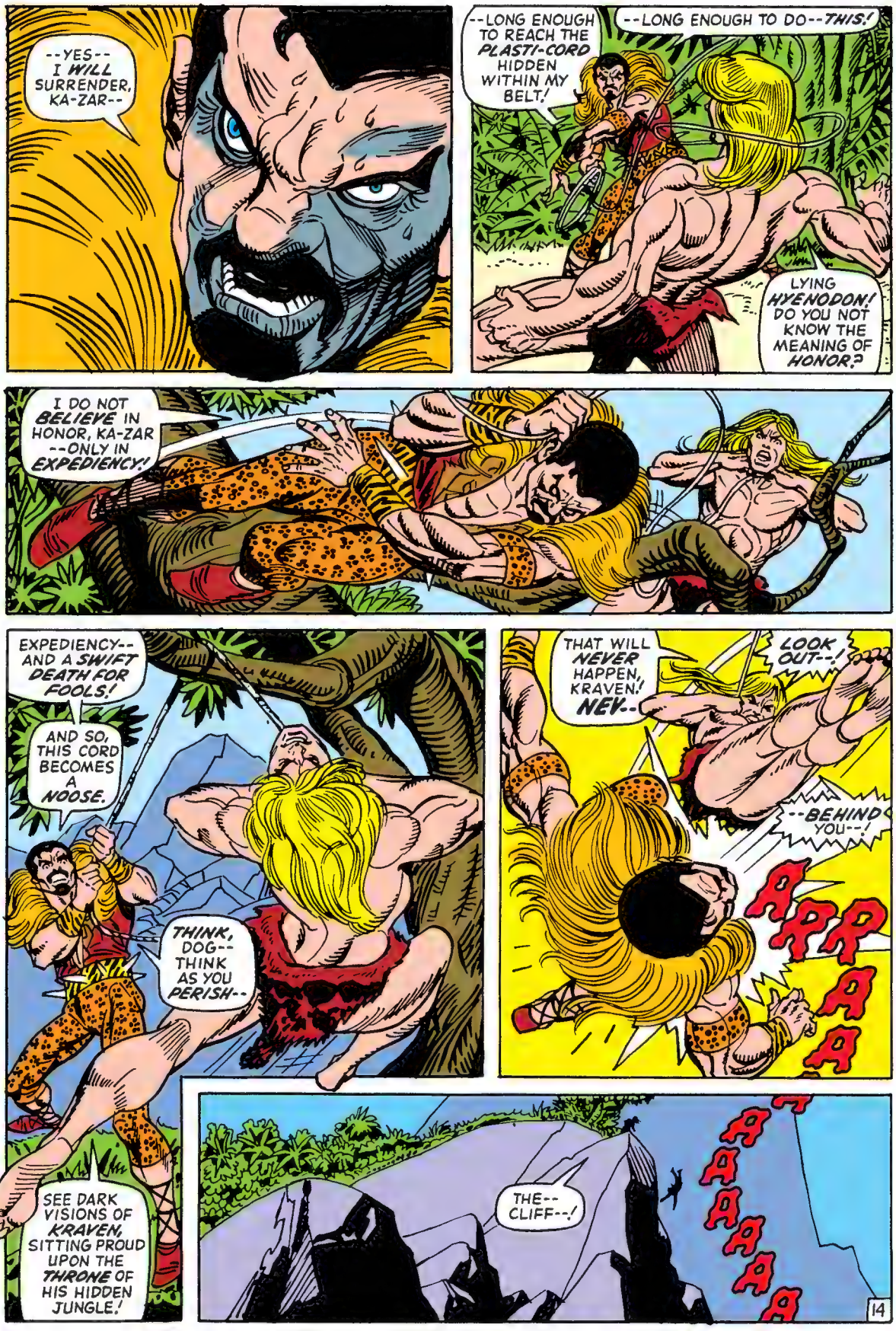

"THE ALIEN CREATURE GREW SWIFTLY, AND WITHIN A FEW DAYS...
ALREADY, HE HAS MORE THAN DOUBLED IN SIZE.
IF THIS GOES ON...
"BUT, IT DID NOT GO ON. RATHER, HIS GROWTH-RATE ACCELERATED...
AS YOU GAIN SIZE, SO DO YOUR STRANGE GARMENTS, EH, MY PET?
AND, THE WEIRD TONGUE YOU SEEM TO HAVE... INHERITED...
HOW FAR ABOVE HUMANITY YOUR STAR-BORN RACE MUST BE!
"YES, GWEN STACY...ON HIS WORLD, IT IS I WHO WOULD BE THE INFERIOR... BUT HERE, HE IS MERELY A LOST AND LONELY CHILD...
"...A CHILD I NAMED GOG, AFTER A BIBLICAL GIANT...
"...A CHILD WHO WILL NOW DO ANYTHING FOR HIS ADOPTIVE FATHER...
"...INCLUDING... CONQUER A WORLD!
TODAY, ONLY ONE TRIBE BRINGS TRIBUTE TO THE LIZARD-ALTAR WHICH GOG BUILT AT MY COMMAND.
BUT SOON, ALL THE HIDDEN JUNGLE WILL ACKNOWLEDGE ME AS ITS KING... AND YOU, AS ITS QUEEN.
Y-YOU'RE STARK, STARING MAD!
EVEN IF YOU COULD... WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO RULE THIS GOD-FORSAKEN LAND?
EACH MAN MUST FIND HIS NICHE, GIRL...THE PLACE WHERE HE CAN STAKE HIS CLAIM TO FORTUNE... TO POWER!
THIS LAND IS MINE...AND NO ONE SHALL WREST IT FROM ME.
NO ONE!
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A CUE TO ME, PAL.
SHALL WE?
AS WE HAVE PLANNED, MY FRIEND.
9

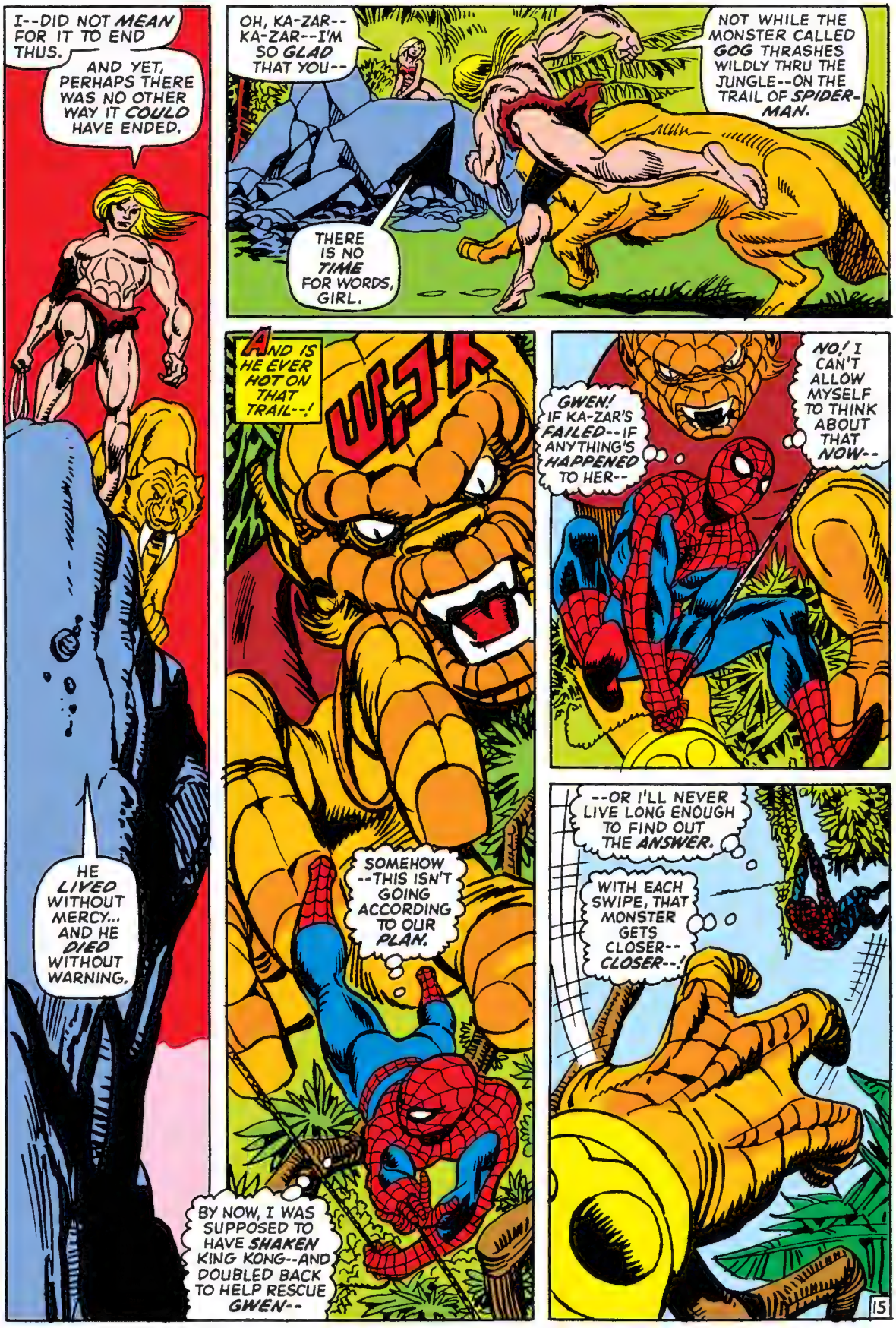

THEN--LET'S GET CRACKIN'!
I LUCKED OUT!
THE MONSTER'S TURNING THIS WAY--HE'S SPOTTED ME!
SO, I BETTER MAKE TRACKS--
--AND HOPE I CAN SURVIVE THIS RUN OF GOOD LUCK.
DITJ
THINK IT OVER, GWEN STACY. EITHER REIGN AS MY EMPRESS, OR ELSE--
WHAT IS IT, GOG? WHAT'S WRONG?
WHY DO YOU GRUNT SO--MULL ABOUT?
GOG! WHERE ARE YOU GOING? COME BACK HERE, YOU MISBEGOTTEN--
HE'S PURSUING SOMETHING WHICH DISAPPEARED INTO THE TREES--BUT I DIDN'T SEE WHO--OR WHAT.
DID YOU, WOMAN?
WELL, SPEAK UP! DID YOU??
LOOK NOT TO A FRIGHTENED GIRL FOR YOUR ANSWER, KRAVEN.
LOOK RATHER--TO ME!
UNNGHH!
KA-ZAR!
10

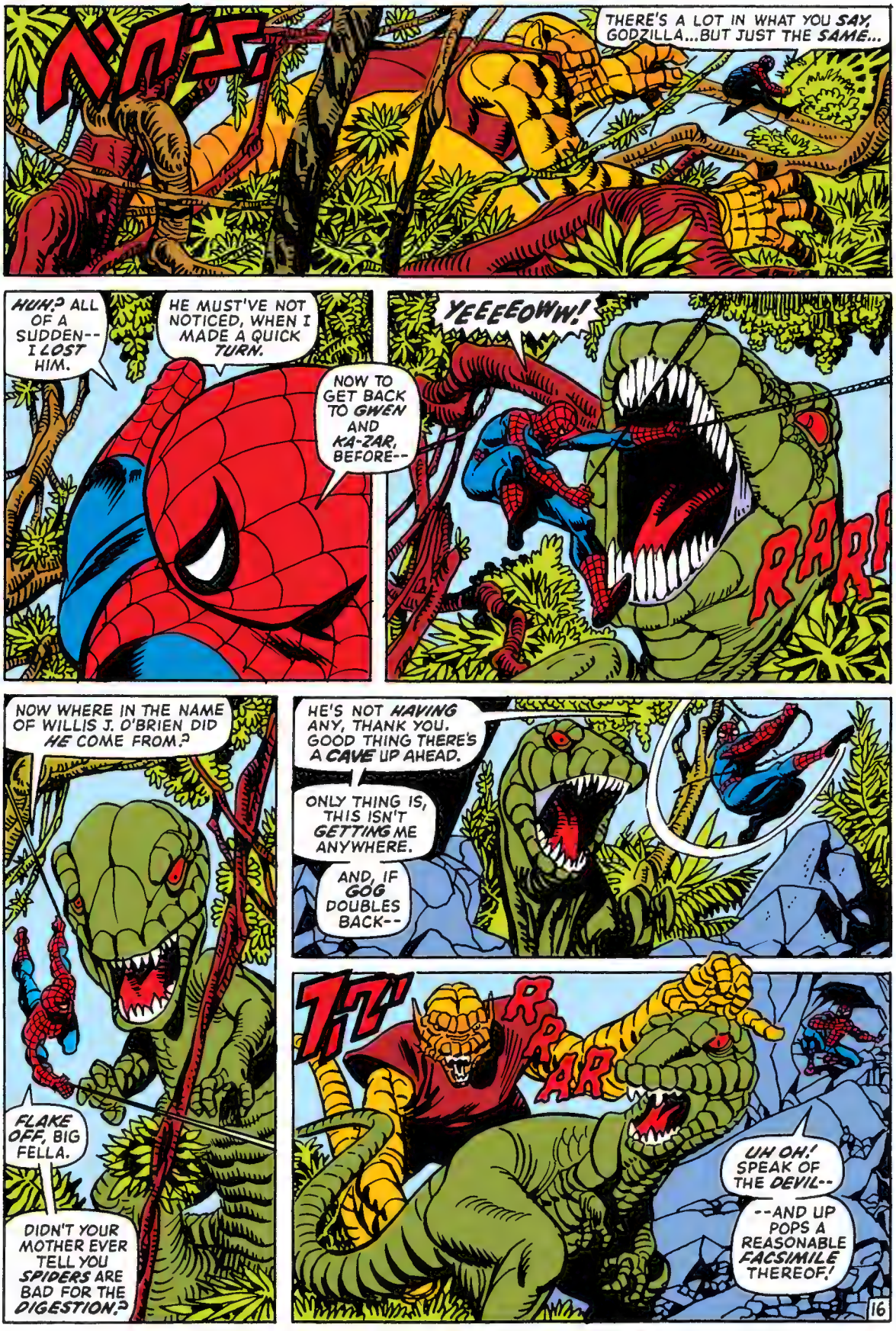

TWO SPRAWLING FORMS--TUMBLING HEADLONG OVER ROCKS AND JAGGED BOULDERS--
MOST ANY MEN WOULD SUFFER GRIEVOUS WOUNDS --SPLINTERED BONES--AMID SUCH VIOLENT ACTION--
BUT ONE OF THESE TWAIN IS KRAVEN, CALLED THE HUNTER--
--AND THE OTHER ONE IS--KA-ZAR!
BKOK!
MMMFF!
YOU ARE--MY PHYSICAL EQUAL, JUNGLE MAN--
--PERHAPS EVEN-- IN SOME CRUDE WAY--MY SUPERIOR.
BUT STILL-- I AM KRAVEN!
AND, WHOM KRAVEN CANNOT DEFEAT ONE WAY--
--HE SHALL BEST ANOTHER!
SSFFFSSS
AMAZING! YOU-- STILL STAND!
BUT, THAT VAPOR-BLAST WOULD HAVE FELLED A BULL ELEPHANT.
YES--BECAUSE A MERE BEAST WOULD NOT HAVE HELD ITS BREATH.
BUT KA-ZAR IS MORE THAN BEAST-- PERHAPS EVEN MORE THAN MAN.
11


YOUR HUMILITY ALL BUT MATCHES MY OWN, GOLDEN-HAIR.
STILL, FOR ALL YOUR BOLD WORDS, YOU'VE ONLY BRUTE STRENGTH TO RELY ON--
--WHILE KRAVEN HAS, AMONG OTHER THINGS--HIS ELECTRO-BURSTS!
AAARRHH!
TWICE BEFORE WE'VE MATCHED BRAIN AND BRAWN, KA-ZAR.
THE SECOND TIME, I SWORE THAT--WHEN NEXT WE MET--
--THE VICTORY WOULD BE WHOLLY, UNEQUIVOCALLY MINE!
AND, ON THIS DAY--
--WITH THIS SKULL-CRUSHING STONE--
--I'LL KEEP THAT VOW!
RRRRRR
THE SABRE-TOOTH!
I HAD FORGOTTEN THAT, WHERE KA-ZAR IS--HIS TIGER IS ALWAYS CLOSE AT HAND.
BUT, NO MATTER. IN A MOMENT, GOG SHALL RETURN, FROM WHEREVER YOU HAVE SOMEHOW MISLED HIM--
AND THEN THE ADVANTAGE SHALL BE MINE ONCE MORE.
KA-ZAR DOES NOT NEED ZABU TO BE LORD OF THE JUNGLE--
12


KA-ZAR NEEDS ONLY--
--KA-ZAR!
BUT I--NOT YOU--WAS BORN TO BE RULER OF THIS SAVAGE LAND--
AND SO--YOU MUST DIE!
THWOK!
NOT BY YOUR HAND, VILLAIN!
SAVAGE THIS LAND MAY BE--BUT STILL A PLACE OF QUIET BEAUTY--OF PRIMITIVE INNOCENCE.
UHHGNN
I'LL NOT SEE IT RUINED--BY YOUR RUDE HAND!
SURRENDER!
NOW SURRENDER, HUNTSMAN--WHILE YOU STILL HAVE LIFE TO SAVE.
MMMFF!
Y-YES--
WHOM!
13


--YES-- I WILL SURRENDER, KA-ZAR--
--LONG ENOUGH TO REACH THE PLASTI-CORD HIDDEN WITHIN MY BELT!
--LONG ENOUGH TO DO--THIS!
LYING HYENODON! DO YOU NOT KNOW THE MEANING OF HONOR?
I DO NOT BELIEVE IN HONOR, KA-ZAR --ONLY IN EXPEDIENCY!
EXPEDIENCY-- AND A SWIFT DEATH FOR FOOLS!
AND SO, THIS CORD BECOMES A NOOSE.
THINK, DOG-- THINK AS YOU PERISH--
SEE DARK VISIONS OF KRAVEN, SITTING PROUD UPON THE THRONE OF HIS HIDDEN JUNGLE!
THAT WILL NEVER HAPPEN, KRAVEN! NEV--
LOOK OUT--!
--BEHIND YOU--!
ARRAAA
THE-- CLIFF--!
AAAAAAT


I--DID NOT MEAN FOR IT TO END THUS.
AND YET, PERHAPS THERE WAS NO OTHER WAY IT COULD HAVE ENDED.
HE LIVED WITHOUT MERCY... AND HE DIED WITHOUT WARNING.
OH, KA-ZAR--KA-ZAR--I'M SO GLAD THAT YOU--
THERE IS NO TIME FOR WORDS, GIRL.
NOT WHILE THE MONSTER CALLED GOG THRASHES WILDLY THRU THE JUNGLE--ON THE TRAIL OF SPIDER-MAN.
AND IS HE EVER HOT ON THAT TRAIL--!
WHAM
SOMEHOW --THIS ISN'T GOING ACCORDING TO OUR PLAN.
BY NOW, I WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE SHAKEN KING KONG--AND DOUBLED BACK TO HELP RESCUE GWEN--
GWEN! IF KA-ZAR'S FAILED--IF ANYTHING'S HAPPENED TO HER--
NO! I CAN'T ALLOW MYSELF TO THINK ABOUT THAT NOW--
--OR I'LL NEVER LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO FIND OUT THE ANSWER.
WITH EACH SWIPE, THAT MONSTER GETS CLOSER-- CLOSER--!
15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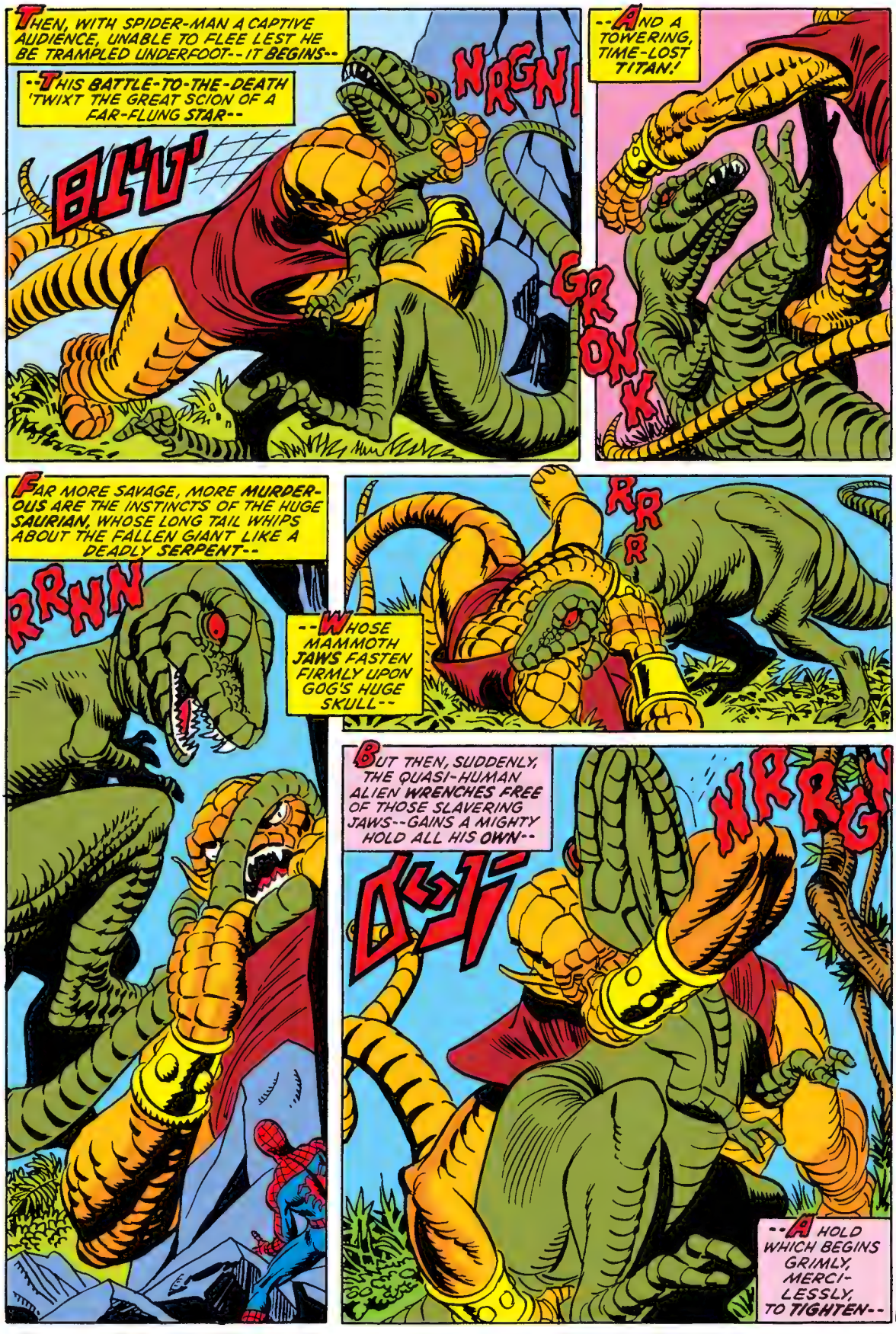
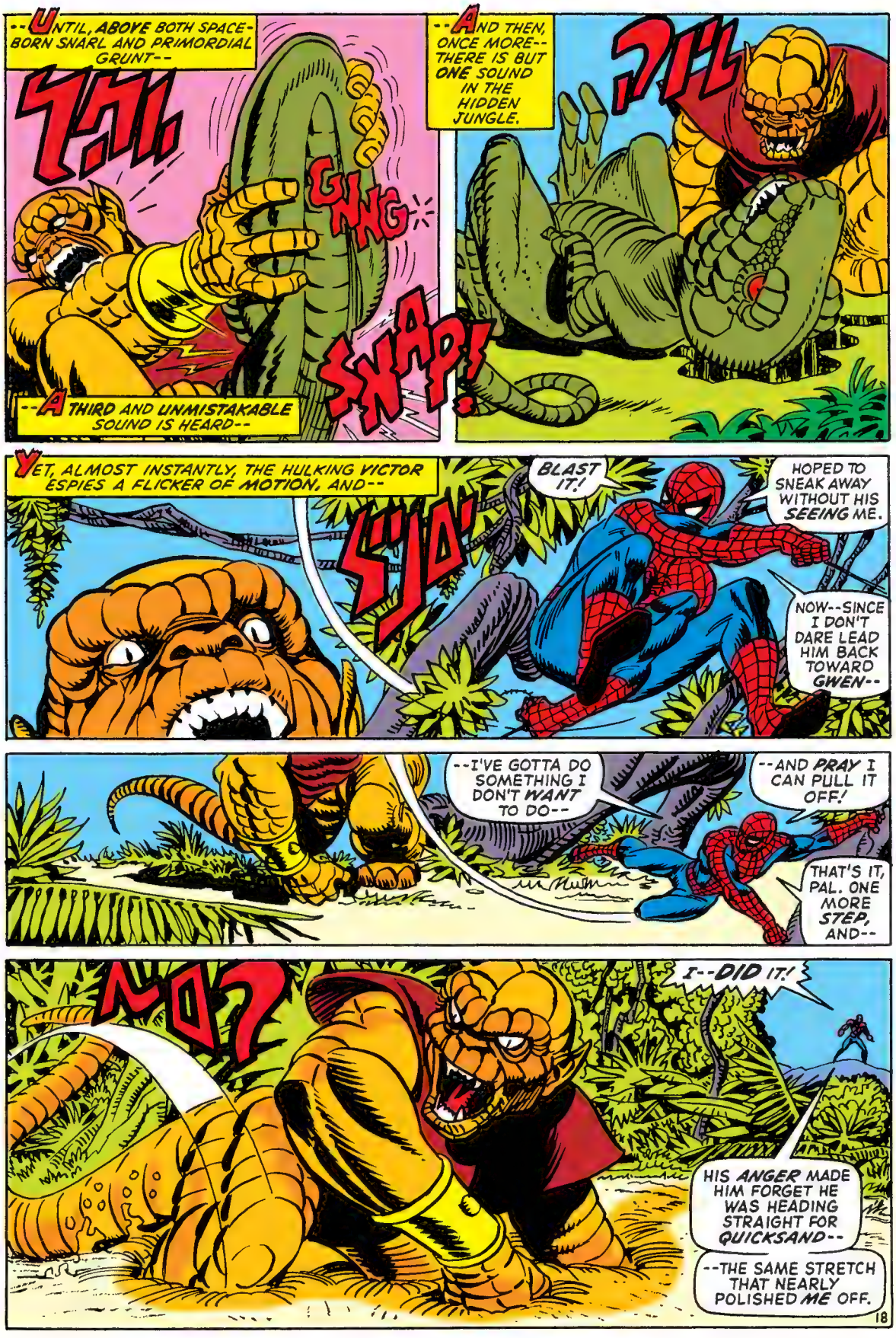
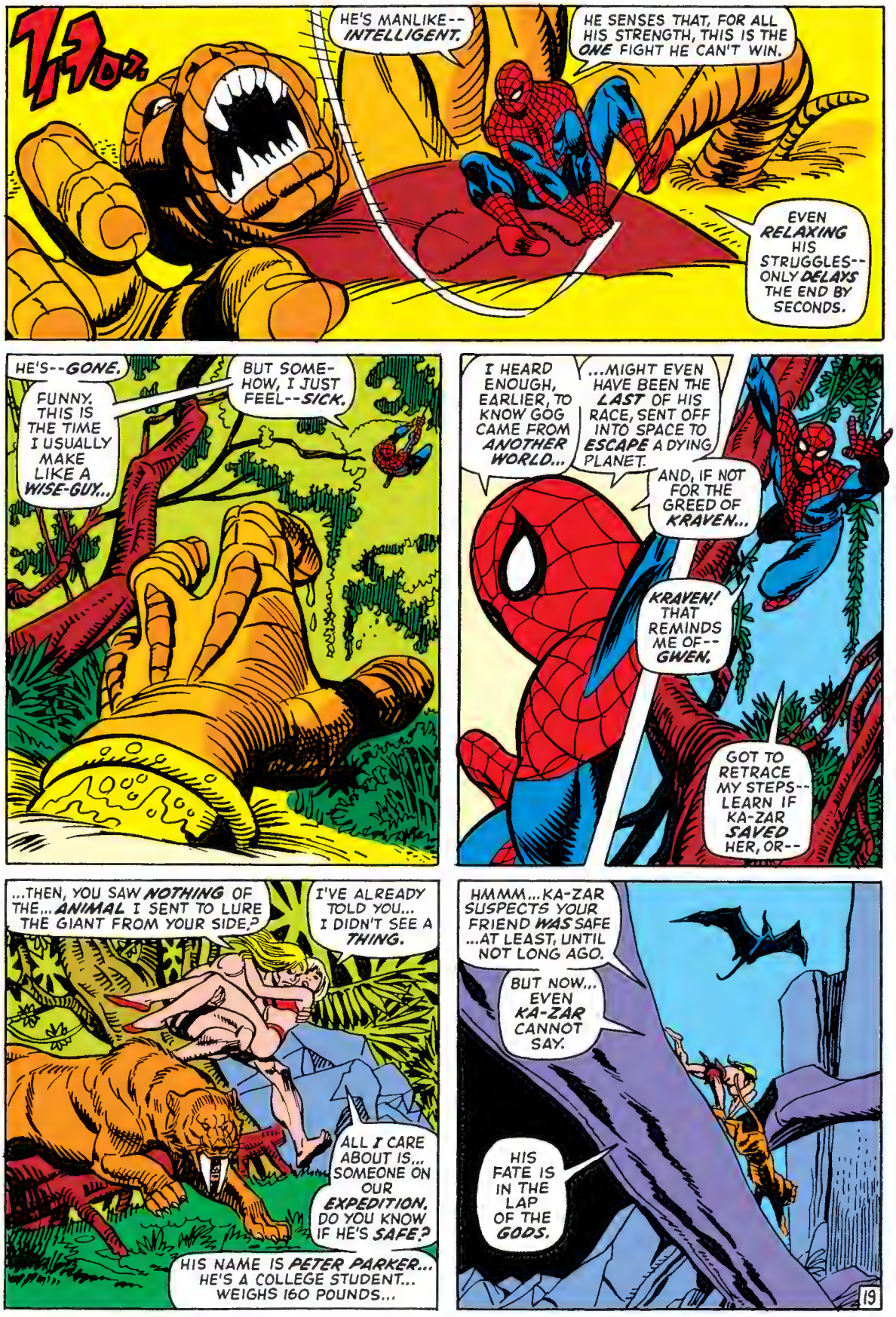
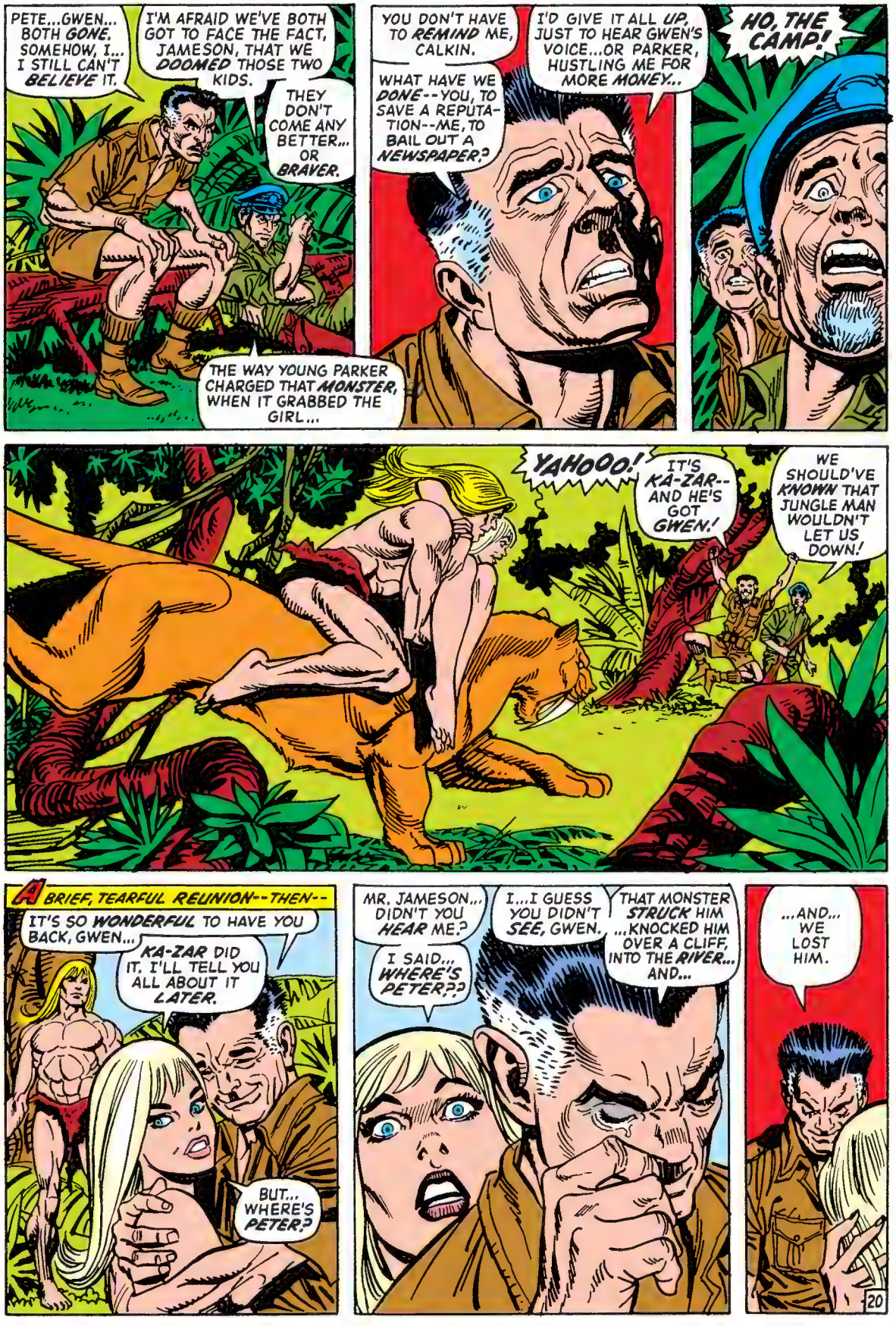
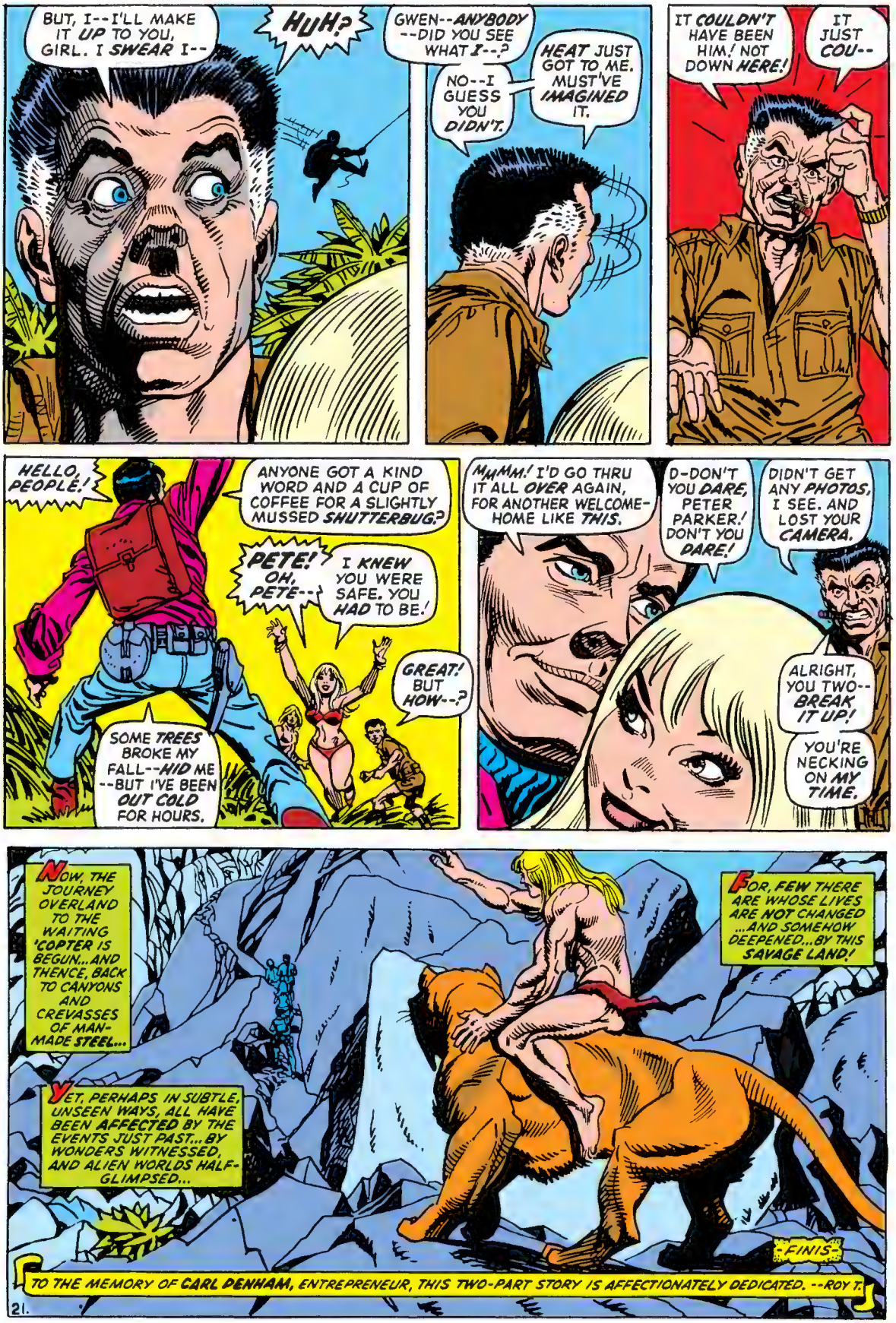
THERE'S A LOT IN WHAT YOU SAY, GODZILLA...BUT JUST THE SAME...
HUH? ALL OF A SUDDEN--I LOST HIM.
HE MUST'VE NOT NOTICED, WHEN I MADE A QUICK TURN.
NOW TO GET BACK TO GWEN AND KA-ZAR, BEFORE--
YEEEEOWW!
RARR
NOW WHERE IN THE NAME OF WILLIS J. O'BRIEN DID HE COME FROM?
FLAKE OFF, BIG FELLA.
DIDN'T YOUR MOTHER EVER TELL YOU SPIDERS ARE BAD FOR THE DIGESTION?
HE'S NOT HAVING ANY, THANK YOU. GOOD THING THERE'S A CAVE UP AHEAD.
ONLY THING IS, THIS ISN'T GETTING ME ANYWHERE.
AND, IF GOG DOUBLES BACK--
TZ'
RRAR
UH OH! SPEAK OF THE DEVIL--
--AND UP POPS A REASONABLE FACSIMILE THEREOF!
16


THEN, WITH SPIDER-MAN A CAPTIVE AUDIENCE, UNABLE TO FLEE LEST HE BE TRAMPLED UNDERFOOT--IT BEGINS--
--THIS BATTLE-TO-THE-DEATH 'TWIXT THE GREAT SCION OF A FAR-FLUNG STAR--
BLU'
NRGN
GR ON K
--AND A TOWERING, TIME-LOST TITAN!
FAR MORE SAVAGE, MORE MURDEROUS ARE THE INSTINCTS OF THE HUGE SAURIAN, WHOSE LONG TAIL WHIPS ABOUT THE FALLEN GIANT LIKE A DEADLY SERPENT--
RRHN
--WHOSE MAMMOTH JAWS FASTEN FIRMLY UPON GOG'S HUGE SKULL--
RRR
BUT THEN, SUDDENLY, THE QUASI-HUMAN ALIEN WRENCHES FREE OF THOSE SLAVERING JAWS--GAINS A MIGHTY HOLD ALL HIS OWN--
NRRG
--A HOLD WHICH BEGINS GRIMLY, MERCILESSLY, TO TIGHTEN--


--UNTIL, ABOVE BOTH SPACE-BORN SNARL AND PRIMORDIAL GRUNT--
GNNG
SNAP!
--AND THEN, ONCE MORE-- THERE IS BUT ONE SOUND IN THE HIDDEN JUNGLE.
--A THIRD AND UNMISTAKABLE SOUND IS HEARD--
YET, ALMOST INSTANTLY, THE HULKING VICTOR ESPIES A FLICKER OF MOTION, AND--
SWOP!
BLAST IT!
HOPED TO SNEAK AWAY WITHOUT HIS SEEING ME.
NOW--SINCE I DON'T DARE LEAD HIM BACK TOWARD GWEN--
--I'VE GOTTA DO SOMETHING I DON'T WANT TO DO--
--AND PRAY I CAN PULL IT OFF!
THAT'S IT, PAL. ONE MORE STEP, AND--
I--DID IT!
HIS ANGER MADE HIM FORGET HE WAS HEADING STRAIGHT FOR QUICKSAND--
--THE SAME STRETCH THAT NEARLY POLISHED ME OFF.


HE'S MANLIKE--INTELLIGENT.
HE SENSES THAT, FOR ALL HIS STRENGTH, THIS IS THE ONE FIGHT HE CAN'T WIN.
EVEN RELAXING HIS STRUGGLES--ONLY DELAYS THE END BY SECONDS.
HE'S--GONE.
BUT SOMEHOW, I JUST FEEL--SICK.
FUNNY. THIS IS THE TIME I USUALLY MAKE LIKE A WISE-GUY...
I HEARD ENOUGH, EARLIER, TO KNOW GOG CAME FROM ANOTHER WORLD...
...MIGHT EVEN HAVE BEEN THE LAST OF HIS RACE, SENT OFF INTO SPACE TO ESCAPE A DYING PLANET.
AND, IF NOT FOR THE GREED OF KRAVEN...
KRAVEN! THAT REMINDS ME OF--GWEN.
GOT TO RETRACE MY STEPS--LEARN IF KA-ZAR SAVED HER, OR--
...THEN, YOU SAW NOTHING OF THE... ANIMAL I SENT TO LURE THE GIANT FROM YOUR SIDE.?
I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU... I DIDN'T SEE A THING.
ALL I CARE ABOUT IS... SOMEONE ON OUR EXPEDITION. DO YOU KNOW IF HE'S SAFE?
HIS NAME IS PETER PARKER... HE'S A COLLEGE STUDENT... WEIGHS 160 POUNDS...
HMMM...KA-ZAR SUSPECTS YOUR FRIEND WAS SAFE ...AT LEAST, UNTIL NOT LONG AGO.
BUT NOW... EVEN KA-ZAR CANNOT SAY.
HIS FATE IS IN THE LAP OF THE GODS.
19


PETE...GWEN... BOTH GONE. SOMEHOW, I... I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT.
I'M AFRAID WE'VE BOTH GOT TO FACE THE FACT, JAMESON, THAT WE DOOMED THOSE TWO KIDS.
THEY DON'T COME ANY BETTER... OR BRAVER.
THE WAY YOUNG PARKER CHARGED THAT MONSTER, WHEN IT GRABBED THE GIRL...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO REMIND ME, CALKIN.
WHAT HAVE WE DONE--YOU, TO SAVE A REPUTATION--ME, TO BAIL OUT A NEWSPAPER?
I'D GIVE IT ALL UP, JUST TO HEAR GWEN'S VOICE...OR PARKER, HUSTLING ME FOR MORE MONEY...
HO, THE CAMP!
YAHOOO!
IT'S KA-ZAR-- AND HE'S GOT GWEN!
WE SHOULD'VE KNOWN THAT JUNGLE MAN WOULDN'T LET US DOWN!
A BRIEF, TEARFUL REUNION--THEN--
IT'S SO WONDERFUL TO HAVE YOU BACK, GWEN...
KA-ZAR DID IT. I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT LATER.
BUT... WHERE'S PETER?
MR. JAMESON... DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME?
I SAID... WHERE'S PETER??
I...I GUESS YOU DIDN'T SEE, GWEN.
THAT MONSTER STRUCK HIM ...KNOCKED HIM OVER A CLIFF, INTO THE RIVER... AND...
...AND... WE LOST HIM.
20


BUT, I--I'LL MAKE IT UP TO YOU, GIRL. I SWEAR I--
HUH?
GWEN--ANYBODY --DID YOU SEE WHAT I--?
NO--I GUESS YOU DIDN'T.
HEAT JUST GOT TO ME. MUST'VE IMAGINED IT.
IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN HIM! NOT DOWN HERE!
IT JUST COU--
HELLO, PEOPLE!
ANYONE GOT A KIND WORD AND A CUP OF COFFEE FOR A SLIGHTLY MUSSED SHUTTERBUG?
PETE! OH, PETE--
I KNEW YOU WERE SAFE. YOU HAD TO BE!
GREAT! BUT HOW--?
SOME TREES BROKE MY FALL--HID ME --BUT I'VE BEEN OUT COLD FOR HOURS.
MMMM! I'D GO THRU IT ALL OVER AGAIN, FOR ANOTHER WELCOME-HOME LIKE THIS.
D-DON'T YOU DARE, PETER PARKER! DON'T YOU DARE!
DIDN'T GET ANY PHOTOS, I SEE. AND LOST YOUR CAMERA.
ALRIGHT, YOU TWO-- BREAK IT UP!
YOU'RE NECKING ON MY TIME.
NOW, THE JOURNEY OVERLAND TO THE WAITING 'COPTER IS BEGUN...AND THENCE, BACK TO CANYONS AND CREVASSES OF MAN-MADE STEEL...
YET, PERHAPS IN SUBTLE, UNSEEN WAYS, ALL HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THE EVENTS JUST PAST...BY WONDERS WITNESSED, AND ALIEN WORLDS HALF-GLIMPSED...
FOR, FEW THERE ARE WHOSE LIVES ARE NOT CHANGED ...AND SOMEHOW DEEPENED...BY THIS SAVAGE LAND!
FINIS
TO THE MEMORY OF CARL DENHAM, ENTREPRENEUR, THIS TWO-PART STORY IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED. --ROY T.

SPIDER-MAN
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
THE SPIDER SLAYER!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
THE SPIDER SLAYER!
WOW! IT FEELS GREAT TO BE BACK IN THE CITY AT LAST.
NOT THAT I DIDN'T DIG THE JUNGLE-- BUT ENOUGH'S ENOUGH.*
NOW THE OL' WEB-SPINNER CAN START DOIN' HIS THING AROUND TOWN.
*IF YOU MISSED LAST ISH, FEATURING SPIDEY AND KA-ZAR, THAT'LL TEACH YA! --UNFORGIVING STAN
STORY BY STAN LEE (WE TOLD YOU HE'D BE BACK!)
PENCILS BY GIL KANE (HE NEVER EVEN LEFT!)
INKS BY FRANK GIACOIA (WE CAN'T GET RID OF 'M!)
LETTERING BY ARTIE SIMEK (HE'S REALLY GONE!)
EATS
EAT
7882

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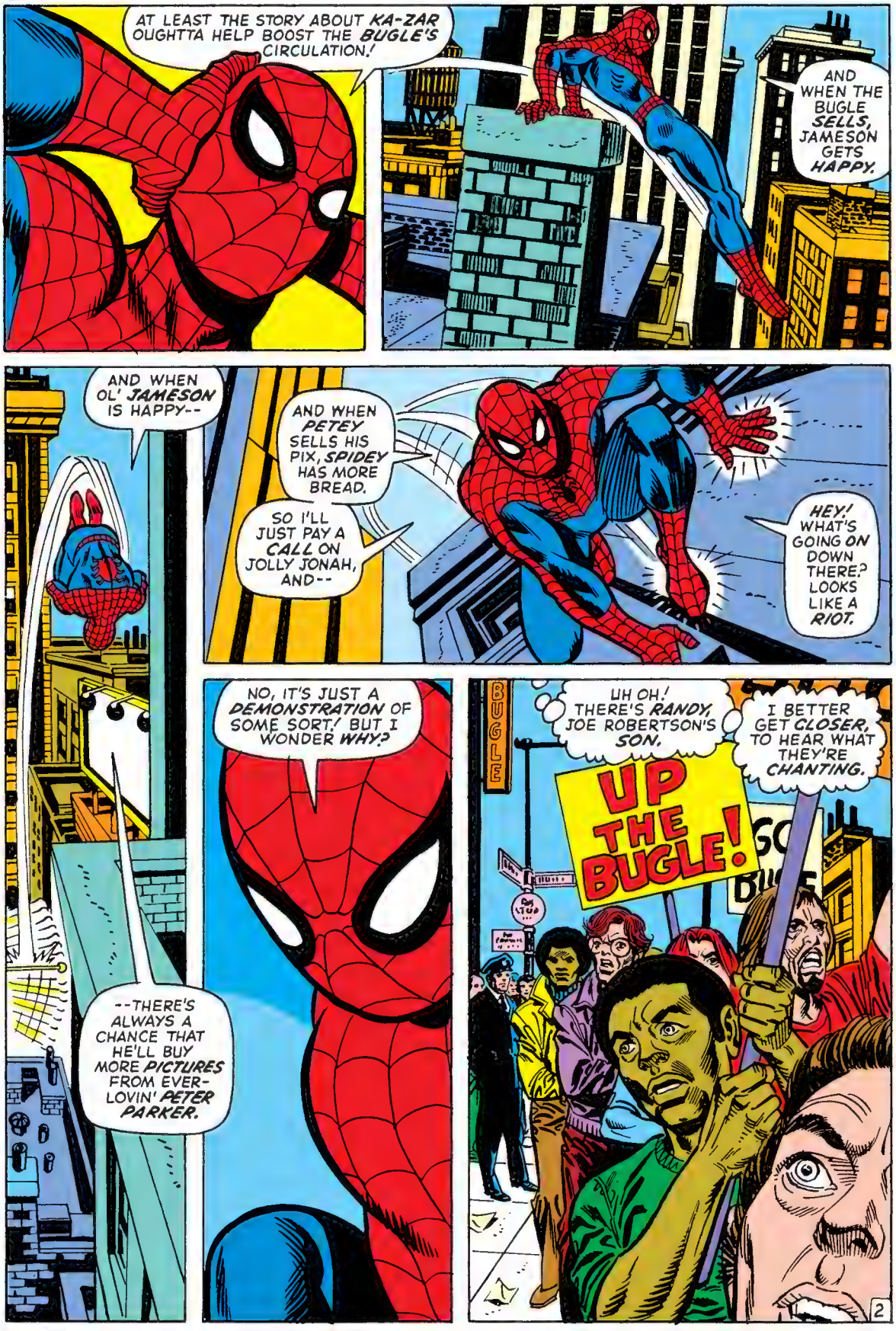

AT LEAST THE STORY ABOUT KA-ZAR OUGHTTA HELP BOOST THE BUGLE'S CIRCULATION.!
AND WHEN THE BUGLE SELLS, JAMESON GETS HAPPY.
AND WHEN OL' JAMESON IS HAPPY--
AND WHEN PETEY SELLS HIS PIX, SPIDEY HAS MORE BREAD.
SO I'LL JUST PAY A CALL ON JOLLY JONAH, AND--
HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE? LOOKS LIKE A RIOT.
--THERE'S ALWAYS A CHANCE THAT HE'LL BUY MORE PICTURES FROM EVER-LOVIN' PETER PARKER.
NO, IT'S JUST A DEMONSTRATION OF SOME SORT.' BUT I WONDER WHY?
UH OH.! THERE'S RANDY, JOE ROBERTSON'S SON.
I BETTER GET CLOSER, TO HEAR WHAT THEY'RE CHANTING.
BUGLE
UP THE BUGLE!
2

SAY IT FAST! SAY IT SLOW! THE BUGLE'S GOTTA GO!
THE BUGLE'S UNFAIR TO MINORITY GROUPS!
THE BUGLE DOESN'T CARE ABOUT THE COMMON MAN!
PEOPLE ARE HUNGRY--JOBLESS--ANGRY--AND WHAT DOES THE BUGLE DO A SERIES ABOUT--?
--THE ADVENTURES OF KA-ZAR AND SOME COSTUMED WEIRDO!
THE BUGLE'S GOTTA GET WITH IT!
JAMESON'S GOT POWER--HE HAS TO USE IT--FOR THE PEOPLE!
HEY, MAN--LOOK WHO'S HERE.
MY FATHER! I FIGURED HE'D SHOW.
I'M CITY EDITOR, RANDY! WHY NOT TALK TO ME?
FACE IT, PA--YOU WORK FOR THE MAN.
DON'T GIVE ME THAT JIVE, SON! YOU KNOW WHERE MY HEAD'S AT.
ANYWAY, WHO SAYS I'M NOT WITH YOU?
DO WHAT YOU WANNA DO, RANDY--LONG AS YOU BELIEVE IN IT.
THANKS, PA--I WILL.
BOY! AFTER THEY MADE JOE ROBERTSON, THEY THREW AWAY THE MOLD.
I'VE GOTTA GET TO WORK NOW, SON.
THE ESTABLISHMENT NEEDS ALL THE HELP IT CAN GET.
DO WHAT YOU MUST, BUT DON'T LOSE YOUR COOL, HEAR?
3

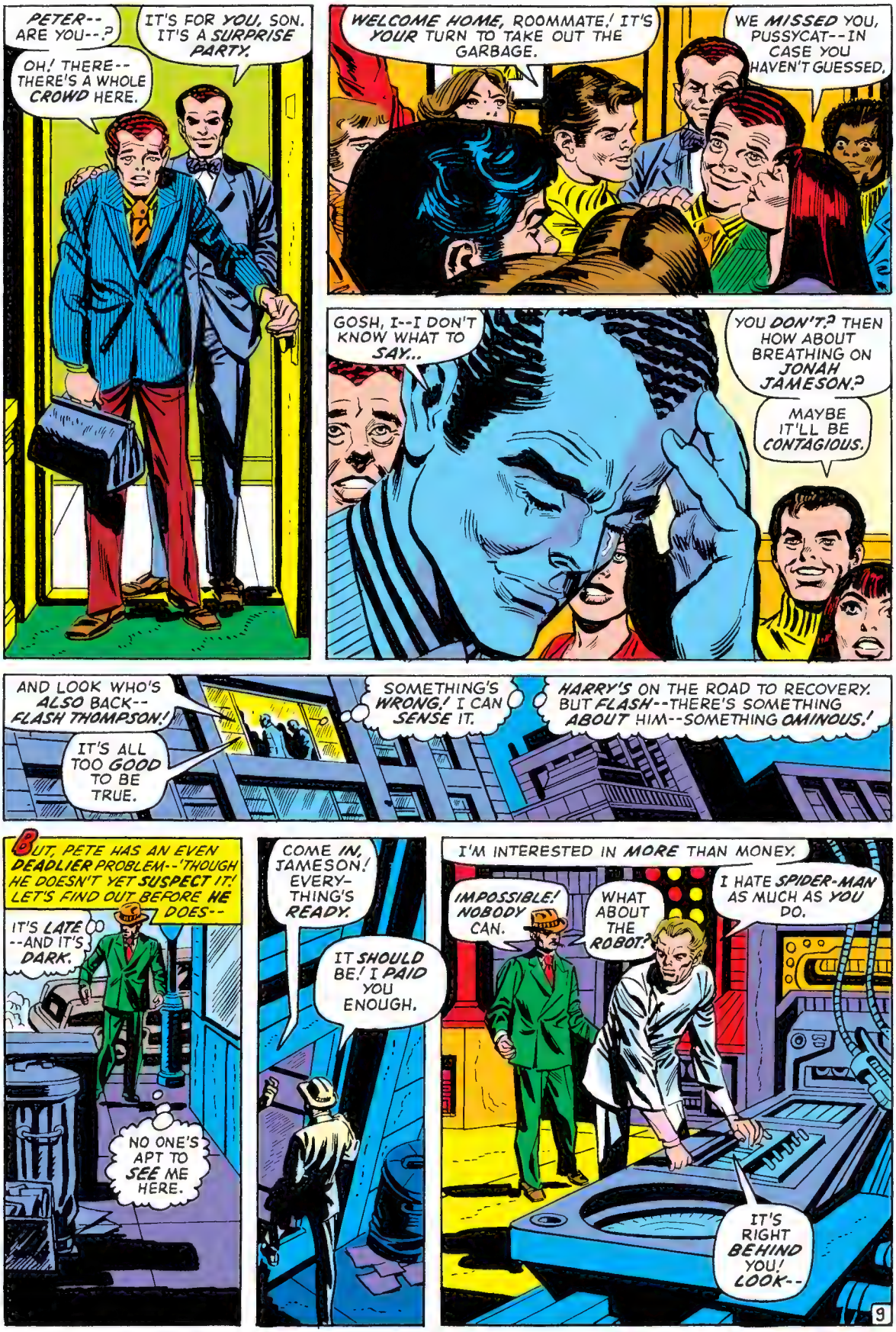
WONDER IF RANDY KNOWS HOW LUCKY HE IS TO HAVE A DAD LIKE--
UH OH!
I'D KNOW THAT CAR ANY-WHERE.
HOLD IT, MISTER! NO PARKIN' ON THIS BLOCK! THE BUGLE'S BEIN' PICKETED! SO BACK OFF!
BACK OFF? I'M J.J. JAMESON, SONNY! I OWN THE SHEET! I OWN THE WHOLE BLAMED BUILDING!
MOVIN
NO PARKIN
UP THE BUGLE
AJAX MOVING
DON'T WAVE YOUR CLAW AT ME, BUSTER! GET RIDDA THEM!
HEY! HE'S HERE! IT'S THE HEAD HONKY HIMSELF!
YOU'RE FLIPPIN' WELL RIGHT I'M HERE, BIG MOUTH--'CAUSE THIS IS WHERE I BELONG!
WHICH IS A BLAMED SIGHT MORE THAN YOU CAN SAY!
LOOK, LITTLE MAN--WE GOT SOMETHIN' TO SAY--AND I FIGGER YOU BETTER LISTEN!
I DO THE FIGURING HERE!
YOU GOT SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND? WRITE US A LETTER!
NO ONE TELLS ME HOW TO RUN MY PAPER! NO ONE!
YOU A MIGHTY BIG TALKER, MAN! HOW 'BOUT LISTENIN' TO WHAT WE GOT TO--HEY!
THE BUGLE'S BEEN FIGHTING FOR CIVIL RIGHTS SINCE BEFORE YOU WERE BORN!
BUT I GOT CIVIL RIGHTS, TOO! AND NOBODY'S MESSIN' AROUND WITH THEM! NOBODY!
DON'T THREATEN ME! I'VE BEEN THREATENED BY EXPERTS!
4

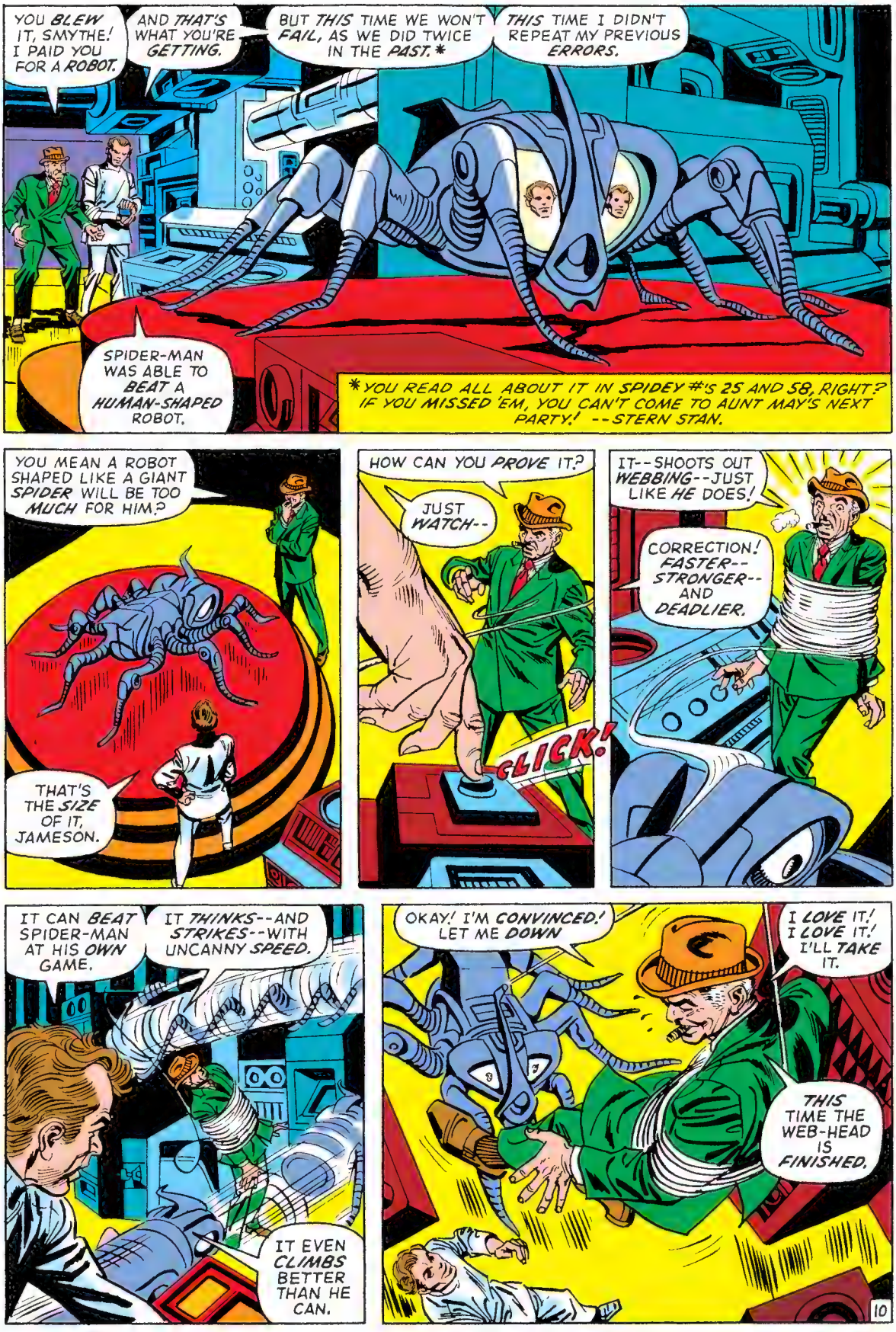
HE SWUNG AT JOSH!
GET 'IM!
JOSH! BACK OFF! IT'LL START A RIOT--SOMEONE'LL GET HURT!
IT'S NOT WHAT WE WANT, HEAR?
TAKE OFF, MAN! THAT CAT'S MAD IT!
JAMESON DID IT AGAIN! THAT CROWD WOULD LIKE TO TAKE HIM APART! AND I KNOW HOW THEY FEEL.
--'CAUSE EVEN HIS SMILE CAN MAKE YOU HATE HIM!
SPIDER-MAN!
LOOKS LIKE YOU BLEW IT AGAIN.
IF YOU COULD ONLY LEARN TO ZIP UP YOUR GUMS!
YOU SLIMY, WALL-CRAWLING PUNK!
YOU THINK I NEED ANY HELP FROM A CREEP LIKE YOU?
I DON'T KNOW.
WHAT KIND OF CREEP DO YOU PREFER?
MADISON AVENUE
EAST 5
YOU PROBABLY STEAMED 'EM UP DOWN THERE.
I DIDN'T HAVE TO! YOU'RE A ONE-MAN HATE CAMPAIGN.
BUT IF YOU THINK YOU CAN USE ME FOR KNUCKLE PRACTICE--
NO! DON'T! STOP! WH--WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
JUST CONSIDER IT A PUBLIC SERVICE, FLAT-HEAD--
5

WAIT! COME BACK! YOU--YOU CAN'T LEAVE ME LIKE THIS!
SORRY, SWEETIE-- BUT YOU'VE GOT BAD BREATH.
JEWELRY
GIFTS
THEY'RE LAUGHING DOWN BELOW! AT LEAST I EASED THE TENSION OF THE CROWD.
HEY, MAN-- YOU REALLY GOT UP IN THE WORLD, HUH?
WE MIGHT AS WELL SPLIT NOW, RANDY! I GUESS WE MADE OUR POINT.
TAKE IT EASY, MR. JAMESON! I'VE GOT YOU.
TAKE IT EASY?!?!
YOU'LL SEE HOW I TAKE IT EASY!
NOW THERE IS ONE ANGRY CITIZEN.
THAT'S THE LAST STUNT YOU'LL EVER PULL, WALL-CRAWLER!
I'VE GOT SOMETHING WAITING FOR YOU! YOU'LL SEE! YOU'LL SEE!
I DON'T LIKE THE WAY JONAH SAID THAT.
BUT THEN, I DON'T LIKE THE WAY HE SAYS ANYTHING.
ANYWAY, I CAN'T WORRY ABOUT JOLLY JAMESON ANYMORE.
I JUST REMEMBERED --I'M DUE AT THE APARTMENT RIGHT ABOUT NOW.
I'VE GOTTA GET THERE BEFORE HARRY ARRIVES.

HE'S GETTING OUT OF THE HOSPITAL TODAY, AND THE KIDS ARE TOSSIN' A PARTY FOR HIM.
AUNT MAY OFFERED TO PREPARE THE REFRESHMENTS 'N STUFF FOR US.
--AND I KNOW HOW SHE'LL WORRY IF HER FRAGILE LI'L NEPHEW DOESN'T SHOW UP ON TIME.
POOR AUNT MAY-- IT MUST BE LONELY FOR HER NOW THAT MRS. WATSON WENT TO THE COAST TO LIVE WITH HER SISTER.
IF I WAS A NICE GUY, I'D MOVE IN WITH HER AGAIN.' BUT, MUCH AS I LOVE HER--
--I JUST CAN'T.
ANY FELLA MY AGE WANTS HIS PRIVACY--
EVEN GUYS WHO DON'T HAVE SECRET IDENTITIES TO PROTECT.
AND YET, I KNOW I'M BEING SELFISH.
NUTS.' I'LL THINK ABOUT IT LATER.
MIGHT AS WELL TRY TO ENJOY THE PARTY NOW.
245
HI, PRETTY GIRL.' HAVE YOU SEEN MY AUNT MAY?
SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HERE, COOKIN' UP SOME GOODIES.
ONE OF THESE DAYS I'LL PUT PEPPER IN THAT ICING, YOU YOUNG SCALLYWAG.

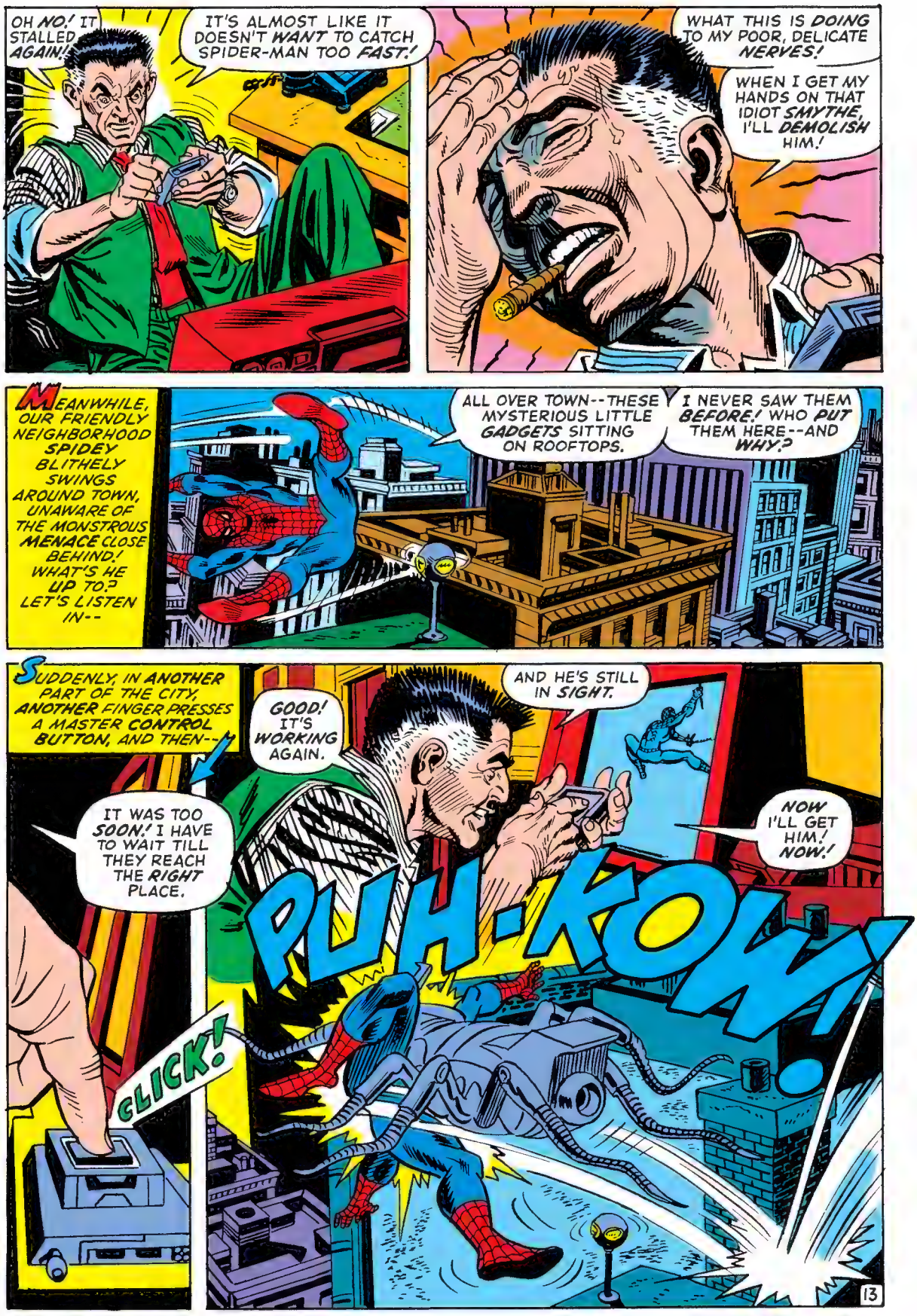
WHEN WILL YOUR FRIENDS ARRIVE, PETER?
THERE'S THE BELL! MUST BE THEM NOW.
HI, P.P.! DID WE MAKE IT AHEAD OF HARRY?
COME IN, COME IN! YOU'RE JUST IN TIME! HE DIDN'T GET HERE YET.
WAIT'LL YOU SEE THE SURPRISE WE BROUGHT YOU, MAN O' MINE.
SURPRISE? WHAT DO YOU MEAN, GWENDY?
I GUESS SHE MEANS ME, PAL.
IT'S FLASH! HE'S BACK! HE'S BACK FOR GOOD!
WELL WADDAYA KNOW!
DON'T LET THE THREADS FOOL YOU! HE'S A REAL, LIVE CIVILIAN.
WELCOME BACK, FLASH! WE'VE ALL MISSED YOU.
YOU? I'LL BET YOU HAVE.
BYGONES ARE BYGONES, HERO! THIS TIME YOU TWO WILL BE FRIENDS.
FOR YOU, GWENDY? WHY NOT?
POOR LITTLE PETEY! THEY ALWAYS DID DIG EACH OTHER.
BUT DON'T WORRY-- I STILL LIKE YOU.
HEY-- HOLD IT.
NOW LOOK, M.J.--
THERE HE IS! IT'S HARRY!
8

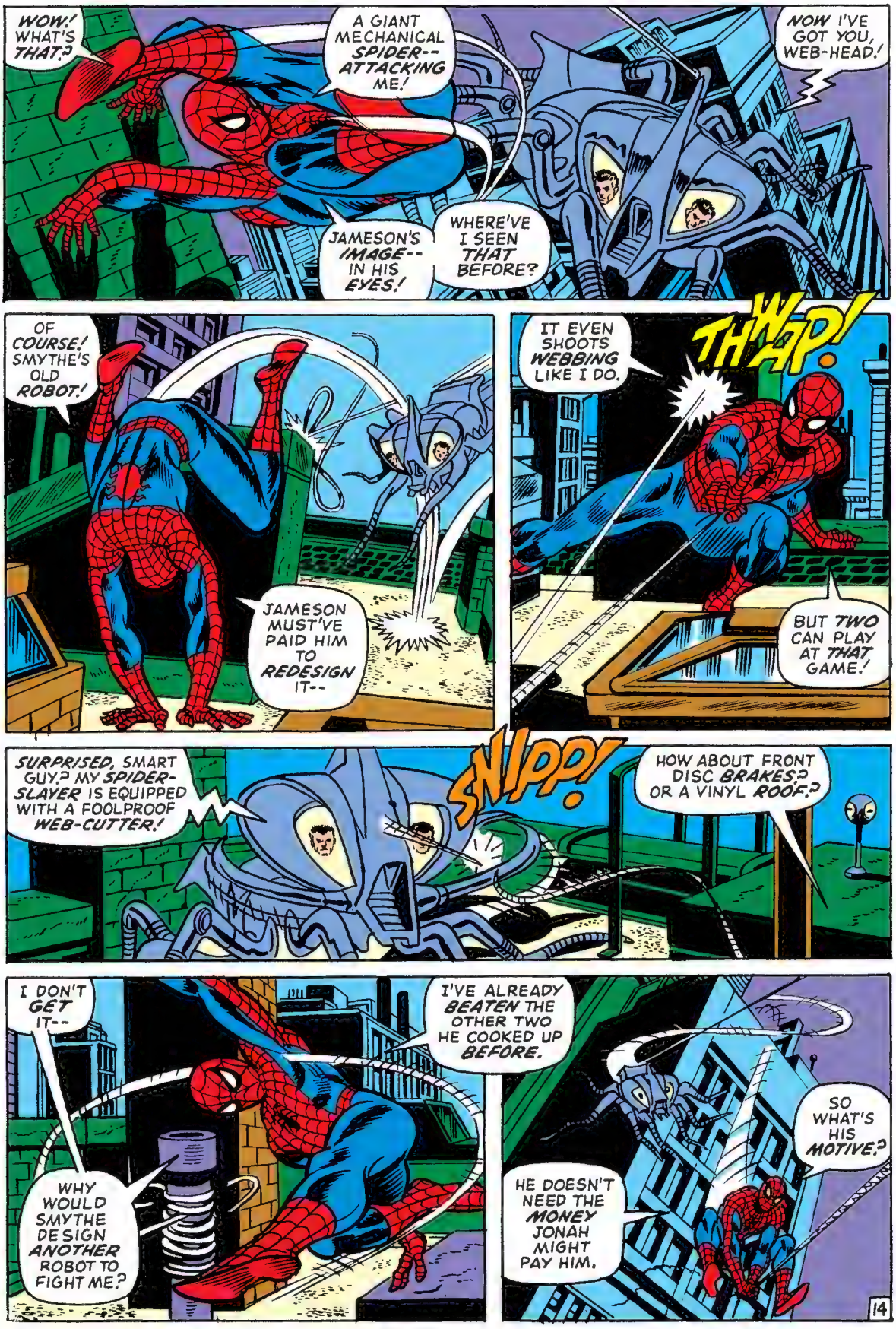

PETER--ARE YOU--?
IT'S FOR YOU, SON. IT'S A SURPRISE PARTY.
OH! THERE--THERE'S A WHOLE CROWD HERE.
WELCOME HOME, ROOMMATE! IT'S YOUR TURN TO TAKE OUT THE GARBAGE.
WE MISSED YOU, PUSSYCAT--IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T GUESSED.
GOSH, I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...
YOU DON'T? THEN HOW ABOUT BREATHING ON JONAH JAMESON?
MAYBE IT'LL BE CONTAGIOUS.
AND LOOK WHO'S ALSO BACK--FLASH THOMPSON!
IT'S ALL TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE.
SOMETHING'S WRONG! I CAN SENSE IT.
HARRY'S ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY. BUT FLASH--THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT HIM--SOMETHING OMINOUS!
BUT, PETE HAS AN EVEN DEADLIER PROBLEM--'THOUGH HE DOESN'T YET SUSPECT IT! LET'S FIND OUT BEFORE HE DOES--
IT'S LATE--AND IT'S DARK.
NO ONE'S APT TO SEE ME HERE.
COME IN, JAMESON! EVERYTHING'S READY.
IT SHOULD BE! I PAID YOU ENOUGH.
I'M INTERESTED IN MORE THAN MONEY.
IMPOSSIBLE! NOBODY CAN.
WHAT ABOUT THE ROBOT?
I HATE SPIDER-MAN AS MUCH AS YOU DO.
IT'S RIGHT BEHIND YOU! LOOK--
9

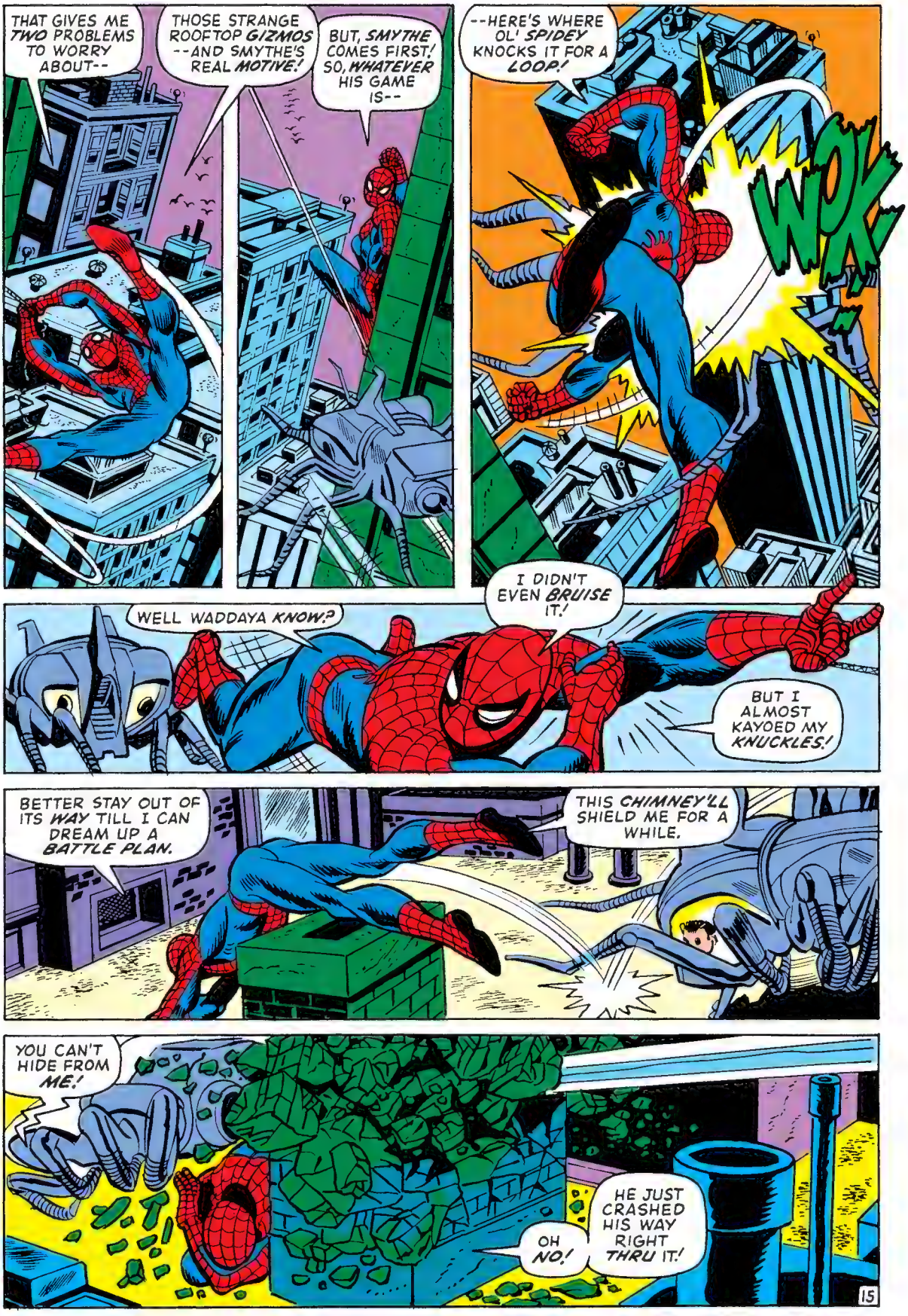

YOU BLEW IT, SMYTHE! I PAID YOU FOR A ROBOT.
AND THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE GETTING.
BUT THIS TIME WE WON'T FAIL, AS WE DID TWICE IN THE PAST.*
THIS TIME I DIDN'T REPEAT MY PREVIOUS ERRORS.
SPIDER-MAN WAS ABLE TO BEAT A HUMAN-SHAPED ROBOT.
*YOU READ ALL ABOUT IT IN SPIDEY #'S 25 AND 58, RIGHT? IF YOU MISSED 'EM, YOU CAN'T COME TO AUNT MAY'S NEXT PARTY! --STERN STAN.
YOU MEAN A ROBOT SHAPED LIKE A GIANT SPIDER WILL BE TOO MUCH FOR HIM?
THAT'S THE SIZE OF IT, JAMESON.
HOW CAN YOU PROVE IT?
JUST WATCH--
CLICK!
IT--SHOOTS OUT WEBBING--JUST LIKE HE DOES!
CORRECTION! FASTER-- STRONGER-- AND DEADLIER.
IT CAN BEAT SPIDER-MAN AT HIS OWN GAME.
IT THINKS--AND STRIKES--WITH UNCANNY SPEED.
IT EVEN CLIMBS BETTER THAN HE CAN.
OKAY! I'M CONVINCED! LET ME DOWN
I LOVE IT! I LOVE IT! I'LL TAKE IT.
THIS TIME THE WEB-HEAD IS FINISHED.
10

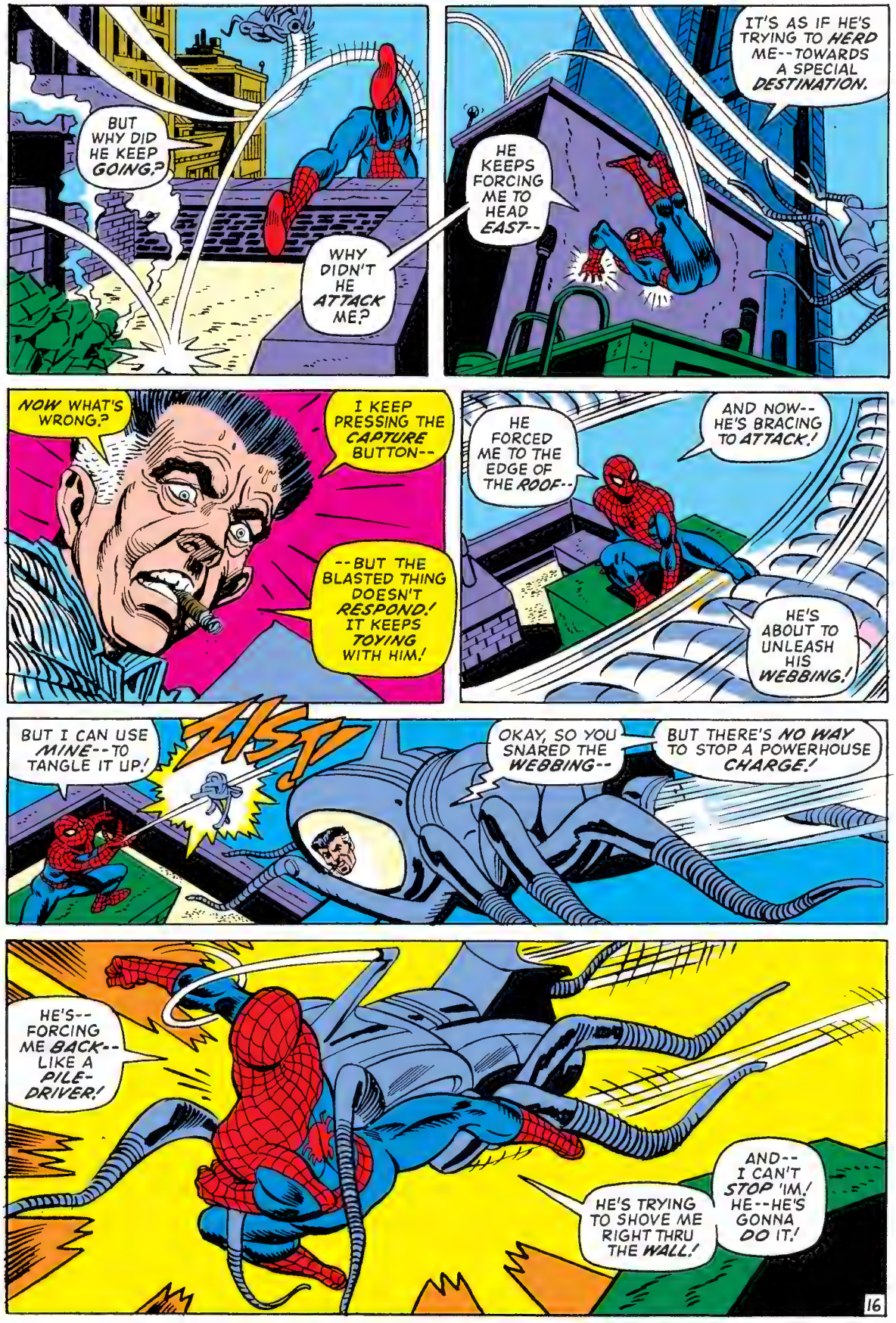
OKAY! WE'VE SET THE SCENE AND FINISHED THE INTROS. NOW, WHAT SAY WE GET TO THE ACTION? IT'S THE NEXT DAY, AND JOLLY JONAH JUST CAN'T WAIT TO PLAY WITH HIS STRANGE NEW TOY--
SMYTHE WAS A FOOL TO RENT ME THIS ROBOT SO CHEAP.
I'D HAVE PAID TWICE WHAT HE ASKED ME FOR IT--BUT I'M NOT TELLING HIM.
ANYWAY, IT'S STARTING TO GET DARK NOW, SO I'D BETTER KEEP MY EYES OPEN...
IF THAT WALL-CRAWLING WEASEL'S ON THE PROWL TONIGHT, THE SPIDER-SLAYER WILL FIND HIM.
IT'S GOT ENOUGH BUILT-IN ELECTRONIC CIRCUITRY TO HANDLE A DOZEN CRUMMY MASKED MISFITS.
AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT SMYTHE TOLD ME.
AND, SINCE HE'S THE ONE WHO BUILT IT, I GUESS HE OUGHTTA KNOW.
THWIPP!
WOW! I'M IN LUCK--HE'S SPOTTED HIM ALREADY.
HE'S EVEN GOT SOME KIND OF BUILT-IN NULLIFIER--SO THAT THE WEB-HEAD WON'T KNOW HE'S BEING FOLLOWED.
GOTTA HAND IT TO SMYTHE. HE THINKS OF EVERYTHING.
I'LL FIX IT SO I CAPTURE HIM ALIVE.
SO I CAN ENJOY LAUGHING IN HIS FACE WHEN THE POLICE UNMASK HIM.
11

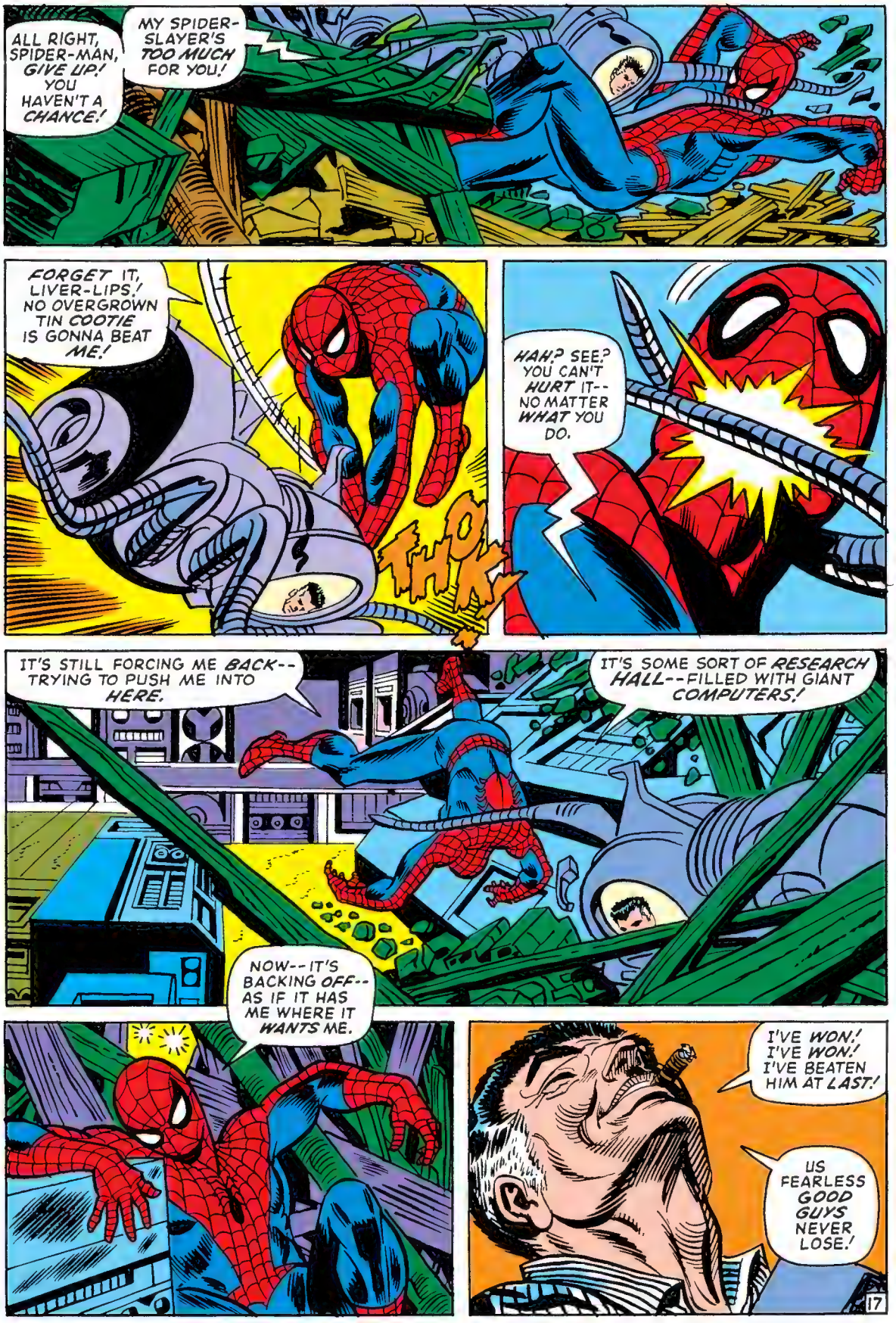
HE'S RIGHT UNDERNEATH ME NOW.
SO HERE'S WHERE I GET HIM.
HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON? THE CONTROL'S JAMMED. I CAN'T MOVE IT!
OF ALL THE TIMES FOR THIS TO HAPPEN!
IT'S LIKE GETTING A WRIST CRAMP JUST WHEN YOU'RE ABOUT TO SWAT A FLY.
AH, THERE IT IS! NOW IT'S WORKING AGAIN.
BUT--HE'S SWINGING AWAY-- ONTO THE NEXT BUILDING.
WELL, I SHOULD WORRY. I'LL GET HIM SOONER OR LATER. HE CAN'T ESCAPE THE SPIDER SLAYER.
OKAY--THIS IS IT! ONE FAST LUNGE AND I'LL HAVE HIM.
HAH! AND HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW I'M HERE.
12

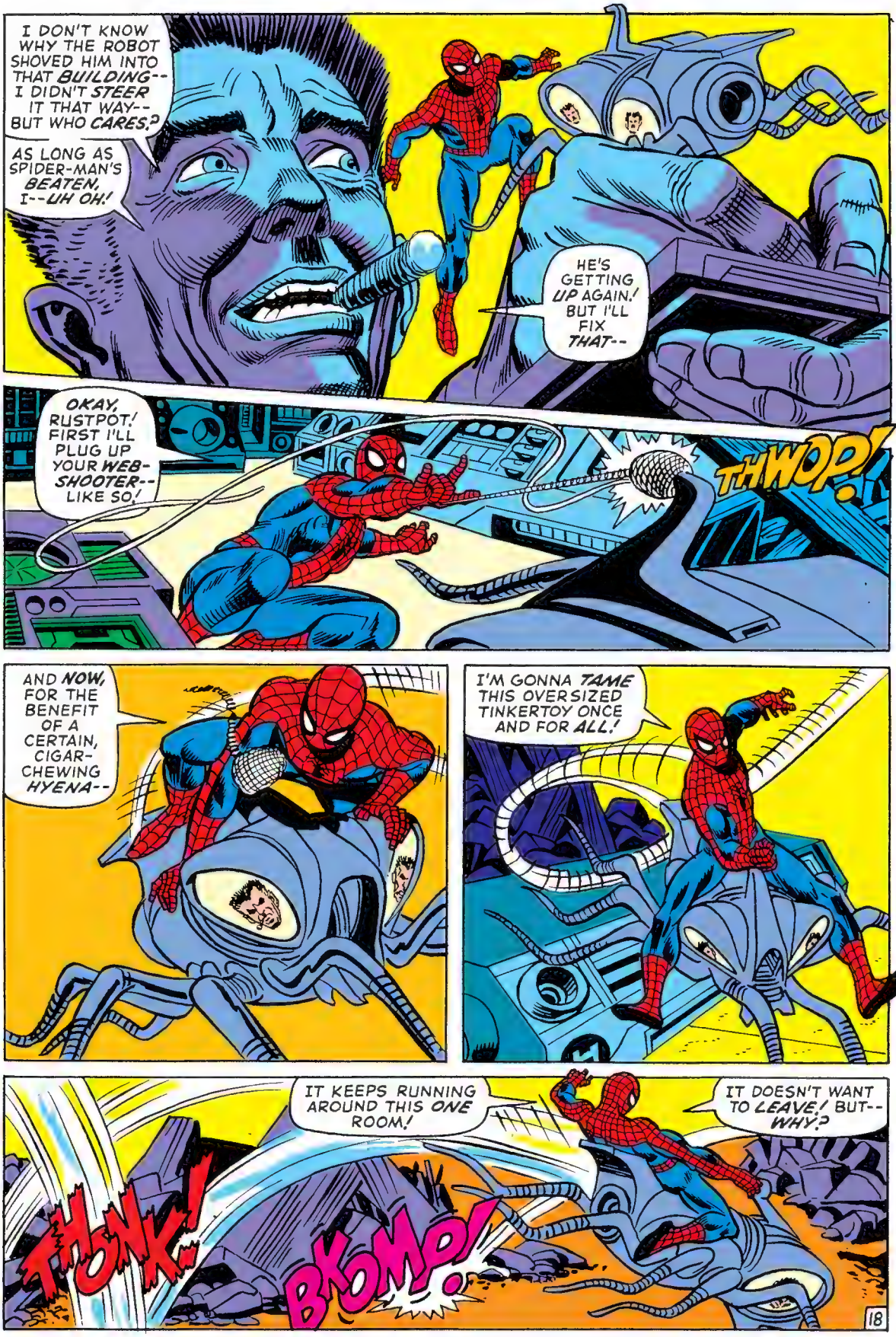

OH NO! IT STALLED AGAIN!
IT'S ALMOST LIKE IT DOESN'T WANT TO CATCH SPIDER-MAN TOO FAST!
WHAT THIS IS DOING TO MY POOR, DELICATE NERVES!
WHEN I GET MY HANDS ON THAT IDIOT SMYTHE, I'LL DEMOLISH HIM!
MEANWHILE, OUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDEY BLITHELY SWINGS AROUND TOWN, UNAWARE OF THE MONSTROUS MENACE CLOSE BEHIND! WHAT'S HE UP TO? LET'S LISTEN IN--
ALL OVER TOWN--THESE MYSTERIOUS LITTLE GADGETS SITTING ON ROOFTOPS.
I NEVER SAW THEM BEFORE! WHO PUT THEM HERE--AND WHY?
SUDDENLY, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY, ANOTHER FINGER PRESSES A MASTER CONTROL BUTTON, AND THEN--
GOOD! IT'S WORKING AGAIN.
AND HE'S STILL IN SIGHT.
IT WAS TOO SOON! I HAVE TO WAIT TILL THEY REACH THE RIGHT PLACE.
NOW I'LL GET HIM! NOW!
CLICK!
PUH-KOW!
13


WOW! WHAT'S THAT?
A GIANT MECHANICAL SPIDER-- ATTACKING ME!
NOW I'VE GOT YOU, WEB-HEAD!
JAMESON'S IMAGE-- IN HIS EYES!
WHERE'VE I SEEN THAT BEFORE?
OF COURSE! SMYTHE'S OLD ROBOT!
JAMESON MUST'VE PAID HIM TO REDESIGN IT--
IT EVEN SHOOTS WEBBING LIKE I DO.
THWAP!
BUT TWO CAN PLAY AT THAT GAME!
SURPRISED, SMART GUY? MY SPIDER-SLAYER IS EQUIPPED WITH A FOOLPROOF WEB-CUTTER!
SNIPP!
HOW ABOUT FRONT DISC BRAKES? OR A VINYL ROOF?
I DON'T GET IT--
WHY WOULD SMYTHE DESIGN ANOTHER ROBOT TO FIGHT ME?
I'VE ALREADY BEATEN THE OTHER TWO HE COOKED UP BEFORE.
HE DOESN'T NEED THE MONEY JONAH MIGHT PAY HIM.
SO WHAT'S HIS MOTIVE?
14


THAT GIVES ME TWO PROBLEMS TO WORRY ABOUT--
THOSE STRANGE ROOFTOP GIZMOS --AND SMYTHE'S REAL MOTIVE!
BUT, SMYTHE COMES FIRST! SO, WHATEVER HIS GAME IS--
--HERE'S WHERE OL' SPIDEY KNOCKS IT FOR A LOOP!
WOK
WELL WADDAYA KNOW?
I DIDN'T EVEN BRUISE IT!
BUT I ALMOST KAYOED MY KNUCKLES!
BETTER STAY OUT OF ITS WAY TILL I CAN DREAM UP A BATTLE PLAN.
THIS CHIMNEY'LL SHIELD ME FOR A WHILE.
YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM ME!
OH NO!
HE JUST CRASHED HIS WAY RIGHT THRU IT!

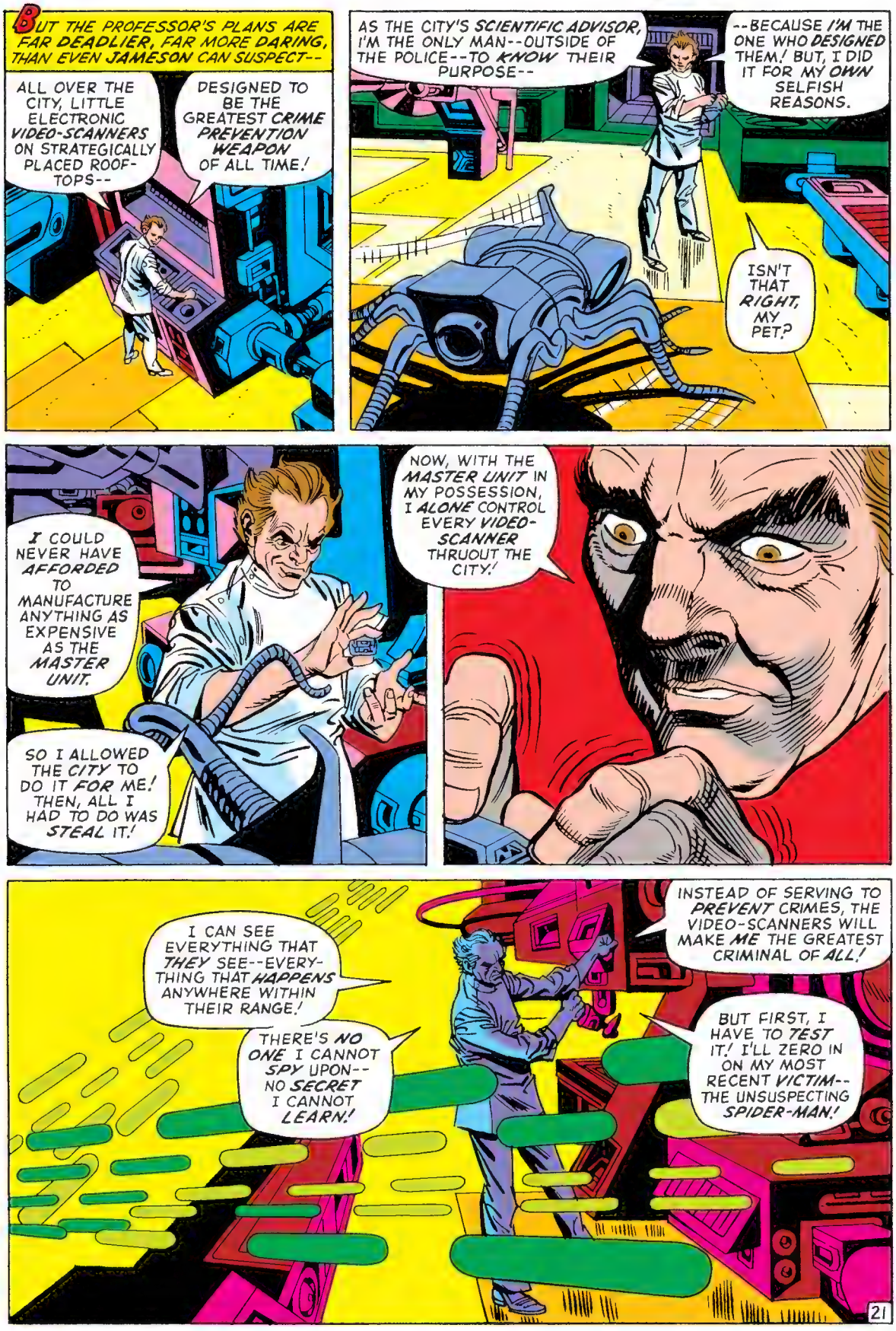

BUT WHY DID HE KEEP GOING?
WHY DIDN'T HE ATTACK ME?
HE KEEPS FORCING ME TO HEAD EAST--
IT'S AS IF HE'S TRYING TO HERD ME--TOWARDS A SPECIAL DESTINATION.
NOW WHAT'S WRONG?
I KEEP PRESSING THE CAPTURE BUTTON--
--BUT THE BLASTED THING DOESN'T RESPOND! IT KEEPS TOYING WITH HIM!
HE FORCED ME TO THE EDGE OF THE ROOF--
AND NOW-- HE'S BRACING TO ATTACK!
HE'S ABOUT TO UNLEASH HIS WEBBING!
BUT I CAN USE MINE--TO TANGLE IT UP!
ZIST!
OKAY, SO YOU SNARED THE WEBBING--
BUT THERE'S NO WAY TO STOP A POWERHOUSE CHARGE!
HE'S-- FORCING ME BACK-- LIKE A PILE-DRIVER!
HE'S TRYING TO SHOVE ME RIGHT THRU THE WALL!
AND-- I CAN'T STOP 'IM! HE--HE'S GONNA DO IT!


ALL RIGHT, SPIDER-MAN, GIVE UP! YOU HAVEN'T A CHANCE!
MY SPIDER-SLAYER'S TOO MUCH FOR YOU!
FORGET IT, LIVER-LIPS! NO OVERGROWN TIN COOTIE IS GONNA BEAT ME!
THOK
HAH? SEE? YOU CAN'T HURT IT-- NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO.
IT'S STILL FORCING ME BACK-- TRYING TO PUSH ME INTO HERE.
IT'S SOME SORT OF RESEARCH HALL--FILLED WITH GIANT COMPUTERS!
NOW--IT'S BACKING OFF-- AS IF IT HAS ME WHERE IT WANTS ME.
I'VE WON! I'VE WON! I'VE BEATEN HIM AT LAST!
US FEARLESS GOOD GUYS NEVER LOSE!


I DON'T KNOW WHY THE ROBOT SHOVED HIM INTO THAT BUILDING-- I DIDN'T STEER IT THAT WAY-- BUT WHO CARES?
AS LONG AS SPIDER-MAN'S BEATEN, I--UH OH!
HE'S GETTING UP AGAIN! BUT I'LL FIX THAT--
OKAY, RUSTPOT! FIRST I'LL PLUG UP YOUR WEB-SHOOTER-- LIKE SO!
THWOP!
AND NOW, FOR THE BENEFIT OF A CERTAIN, CIGAR-CHEWING HYENA--
I'M GONNA TAME THIS OVERSIZED TINKERTOY ONCE AND FOR ALL!
IT KEEPS RUNNING AROUND THIS ONE ROOM!
IT DOESN'T WANT TO LEAVE! BUT-- WHY?
THONK!
BKOMP!

ONCE AGAIN, ANOTHER HAND--FAR MORE SKILLFUL THAN JAMESON'S--MANIPULATES A SENSITIVE MASTER CONTROL, AND--
SKRAKKKK!
I HAVE HIM WHERE I WANT HIM, SO I'LL PUT AN END TO THIS--RIGHT NOW!
-UNNHHH!-
BTOK!
THE ROBOT SWERVED--LIKE LIGHTNING! IT KNOCKED HIM OFF BY RACING UNDER A LOW-HANGING PIPE!
BUT I DIDN'T STEER IT IN THAT DIRECTION!
IF IT WASN'T JUST A MACHINE, I'D SWEAR IT HAS A MIND OF ITS OWN!
HEY! I DON'T GET IT!
NOW IT'S NOT RESPONDING TO ANY OF MY COMMANDS! IT'S LIKE MY CONTROL PANEL'S GONE DEAD!
BUT THINGS MIGHT BE CLEARER IF JAMESON COULD SEE THE PRIVATE LAB OF PROFESSOR SMYTHE--
GENTLY, MY PET--GENTLY! THAT'S IT!
TAKE THE ONE VITAL UNIT THAT I SO SORELY NEED!

THAT'S IT.! DON'T FAIL ME.!
NOW, REMOVE IT.! REMOVE THE MOST COMPLEX, THE MOST POWERFUL COMPUTER ELEMENT EVER DEVISED.!
THE ELEMENT WHICH WILL MAKE ME-- MASTER OF ALL.!
GOOD.! GOOD.! YOU HAVE IT.! IT'S MINE AT LAST.!
AND, BEST OF ALL, NO ONE WILL BLAME ME FOR ITS THEFT.! PROFESSOR SMYTHE WAS NOWHERE NEAR THE SPOT.!
BUT, THAT ISN'T TRUE FOR-- SPIDER-MAN.!
THE CONTROL PANEL'S USELESS.! IT DOESN'T WORK.!
THAT IDIOT SMYTHE CAN'T DO ANYTHING RIGHT.!
BUT, AT LEAST I SAW SPIDER-MAN GETTING HIS LUMPS.!
THEY CAN'T TAKE THAT AWAY FROM ME.
THE ROBOT'S LEAVING--RIGHT THRU THE SHATTERED WALL OF THE BUILDING.!
BUT, HE HASN'T GOT SPIDER-MAN.! HE'S LEAVING THE CRUMMY WEB-SWINGER BEHIND.!
BLAST IT.! WITH SPIDER-MAN'S STRENGTH, HE'LL BE RECOVERING SOON--
AND, IF HE TAKES OFF BEFORE THE POLICE GET THERE --I'LL HAVE LOST HIM.!
BUT, SO WHAT.? I'LL GET SMYTHE TO FIX THE ROBOT, AND WE'LL TACKLE HIM AGAIN.!
SOONER OR LATER-- WE'LL CRUSH HIM.!


BUT THE PROFESSOR'S PLANS ARE FAR DEADLIER, FAR MORE DARING, THAN EVEN JAMESON CAN SUSPECT--
ALL OVER THE CITY, LITTLE ELECTRONIC VIDEO-SCANNERS ON STRATEGICALLY PLACED ROOF-TOPS--
DESIGNED TO BE THE GREATEST CRIME PREVENTION WEAPON OF ALL TIME!
AS THE CITY'S SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR, I'M THE ONLY MAN--OUTSIDE OF THE POLICE--TO KNOW THEIR PURPOSE--
--BECAUSE I'M THE ONE WHO DESIGNED THEM! BUT, I DID IT FOR MY OWN SELFISH REASONS.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, MY PET?
I COULD NEVER HAVE AFFORDED TO MANUFACTURE ANYTHING AS EXPENSIVE AS THE MASTER UNIT.
SO I ALLOWED THE CITY TO DO IT FOR ME! THEN, ALL I HAD TO DO WAS STEAL IT!
NOW, WITH THE MASTER UNIT IN MY POSSESSION, I ALONE CONTROL EVERY VIDEO-SCANNER THRUOUT THE CITY!
I CAN SEE EVERYTHING THAT THEY SEE--EVERY-THING THAT HAPPENS ANYWHERE WITHIN THEIR RANGE!
THERE'S NO ONE I CANNOT SPY UPON--NO SECRET I CANNOT LEARN!
INSTEAD OF SERVING TO PREVENT CRIMES, THE VIDEO-SCANNERS WILL MAKE ME THE GREATEST CRIMINAL OF ALL!
BUT FIRST, I HAVE TO TEST IT! I'LL ZERO IN ON MY MOST RECENT VICTIM--THE UNSUSPECTING SPIDER-MAN!

THERE! BY TRIANGULATING ALL THE IMAGES, I CAN ZERO-IN UPON MY TARGET IN A MATTER OF SECONDS.
I'M JUST IN TIME! HE'S STARTING TO RECOVER!
LITTLE DOES HE DREAM THAT A VIDEO-SCANNER FROM AN ADJACENT ROOFTOP IS MONITORING HIS EVERY MOVE!
"SOONER OR LATER HE'S GOT TO REMOVE HIS MASK! AND, WHEN HE DOES--"
"I'LL BE THERE-- TO DISCOVER HIS TRUE IDENTITY!"
"IT'S PERFECT! PERFECT! THE POLICE HAVE ARRIVED --THEY SEE HIM LEAVE THE COMPUTER COMPLEX! NOW HE'LL BE BE BLAMED FOR THE THEFT OF THE MASTER UNIT!"
59ST
NO PARKING
POLICE
HE'S LANDING ON ANOTHER ROOF! THE FOOL! HE THINKS HE'S SAFE--HIDDEN FROM PRYING EYES."
"THERE'S A PILE OF CLOTHING WEBBED NEARBY! HE MUST HAVE LEFT IT THERE! IT MEANS--HE'S GETTING READY TO UNMASK!"
THIS IS IT! AT LAST! AT LAST I SEE WHO SPIDER-MAN REALLY IS!
NOW ONLY ONE QUESTION REMAINS--
WHO'LL CRUSH HIM FIRST? THE POLICE-- OR THE POWER OF PROFESSOR SMYTHE?
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE!
IF YOU CAN BEAR THE SHOCKS!

SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL COMICS GROUP™
20¢
106
MAR
02457
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
HOW DOES OUR HERO GET OUT OF THIS?
REVEALED! THE FACE OF PETER PARKER!
J.R+F.G
SQUASH! GOES THE SPIDER!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
SQUASH! GOES THE SPIDER!
MY SPIDEY SENSE-- IT'S TINGLING LIKE MAD! THERE MUST BE DANGER NEAR!
THAT GADGET -- ON THE EDGE OF THE ROOF! I-- I DIDN'T NOTICE IT BEFORE!
IT'S SOME SORT OF A SPY-LENS DEVICE
AND IT MUST HAVE SEEN ME-- WITH MY MASK OFF!
STORY: STAN LEE
ART: JOHN ROMITA
INKS: FRANK GIACOIA
LETTERING: SAM ROSEN
THAT MEANS-- WHOEVER'S MONITORING IT KNOWS WHO I AM!

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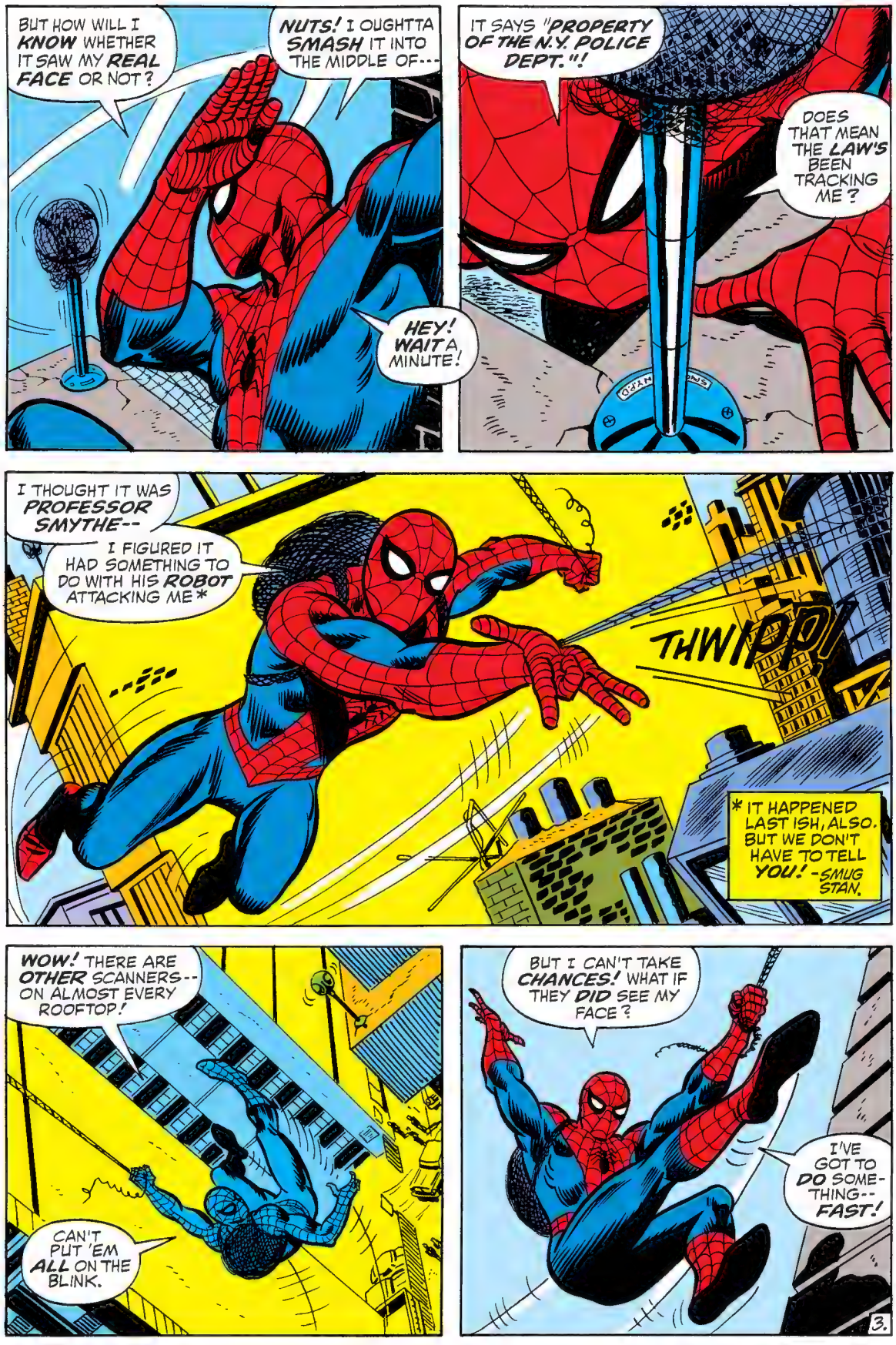
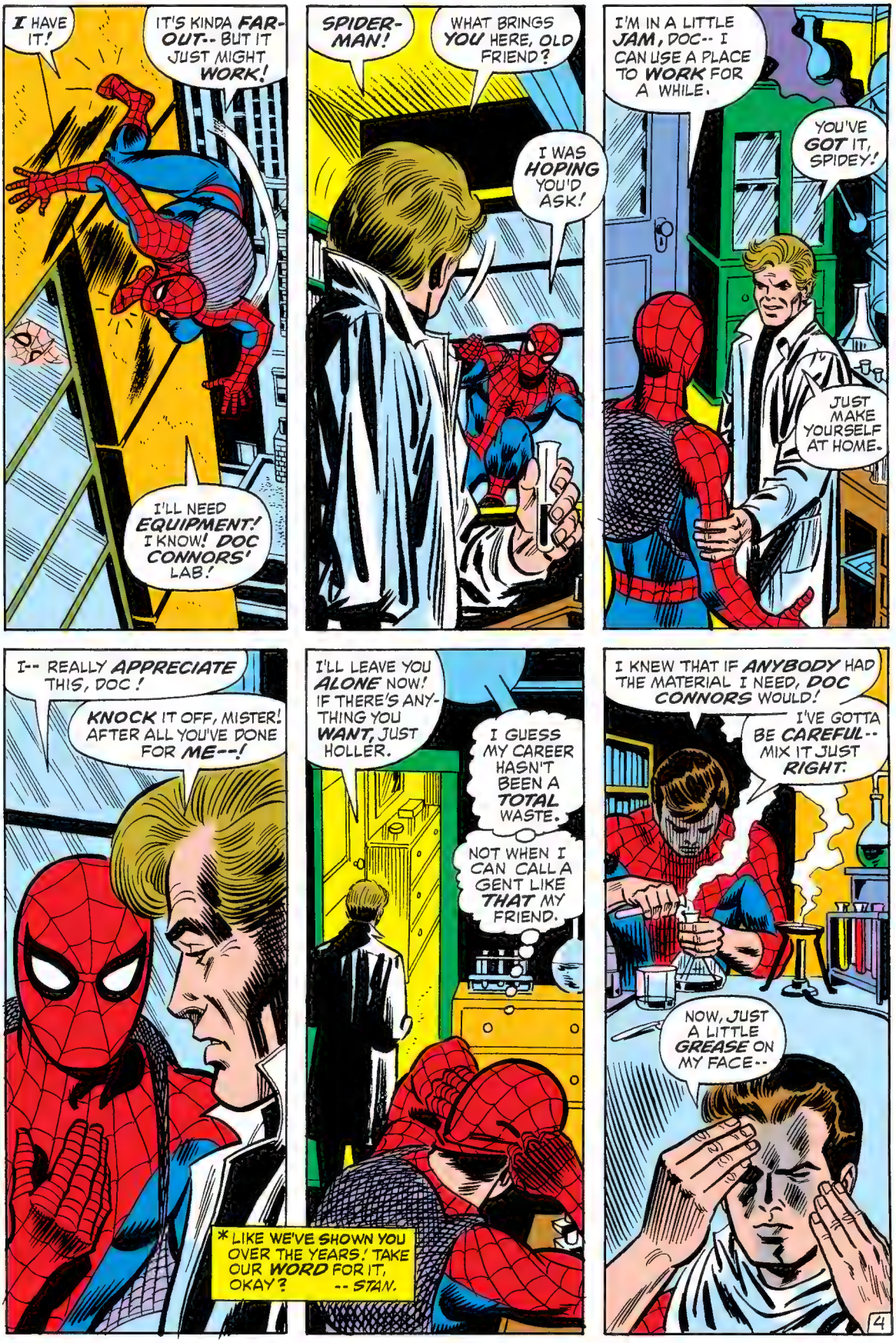
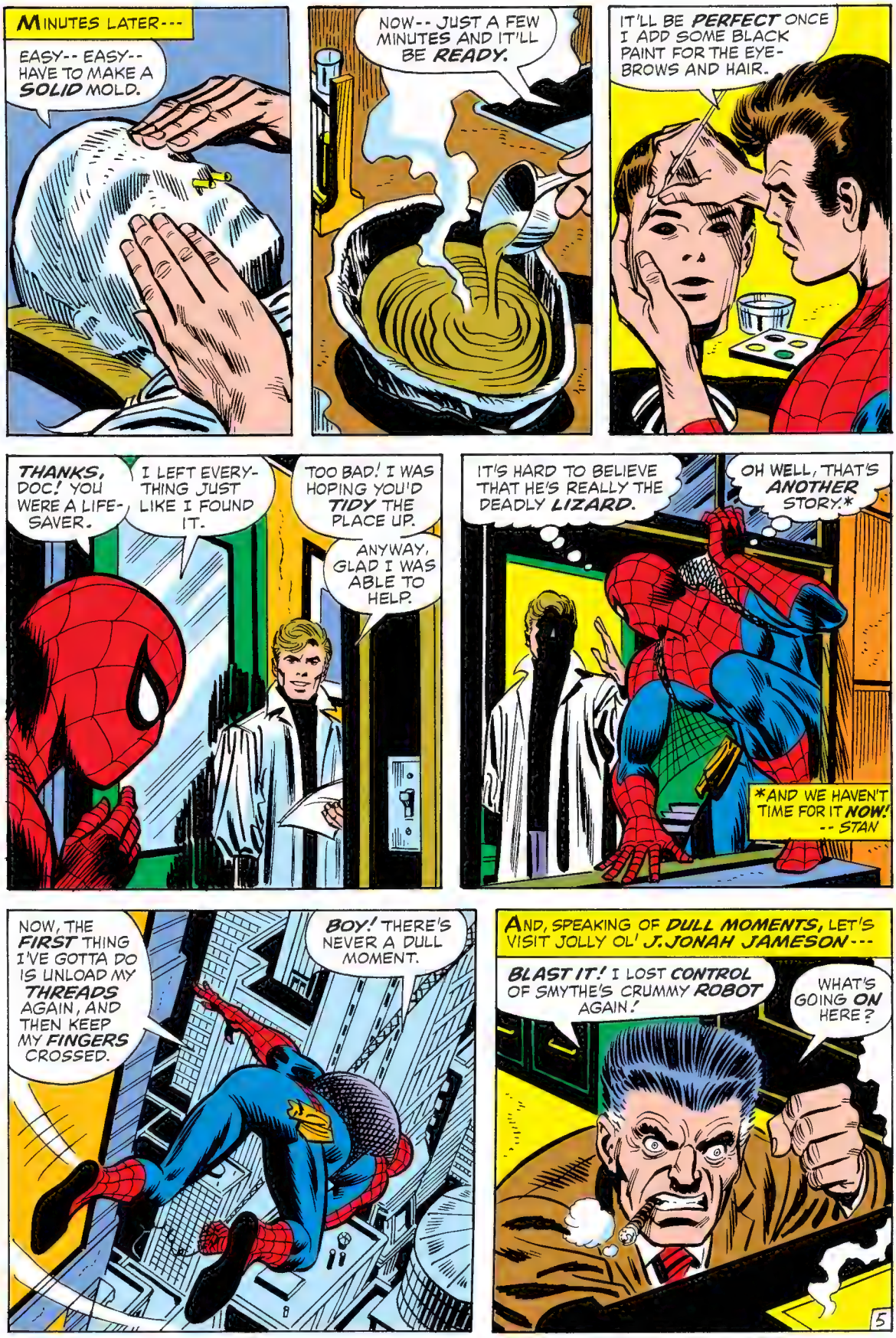
I'VE GOT TO PUT IT OUT OF COMMISSION -- BUT FAST!
MAYBE I WAS LUCKY--
MAYBE NO ONE WAS LOOKING FOR THE BRIEF SECOND I HAD MY MASK OFF!*
THWASK!
*A BRIEF SECOND TO SPIDEY, YEAH-- BUT IT TOOK US A WHOLE PANEL AND THIRTY-ONE WORDS OF DIALOGUE TO SHOW IT LAST ISH, REMEMBER? --NIT-SPLITTING STAN.
AND, AT THE TYPICAL "MAD SCIENTIST" LAB OF THE SINISTER PROFESSOR SMYTHE---
SPIDER-MAN BLOCKED THE VIEW-SCREEN--- BUT HE'S TOO LATE!
I ALREADY SAW WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE-- WITHOUT HIS MASK!
I'M NOT TINGLING ANYMORE-- SO THIS MUST HAVE BEEN THE DANGER.
2.

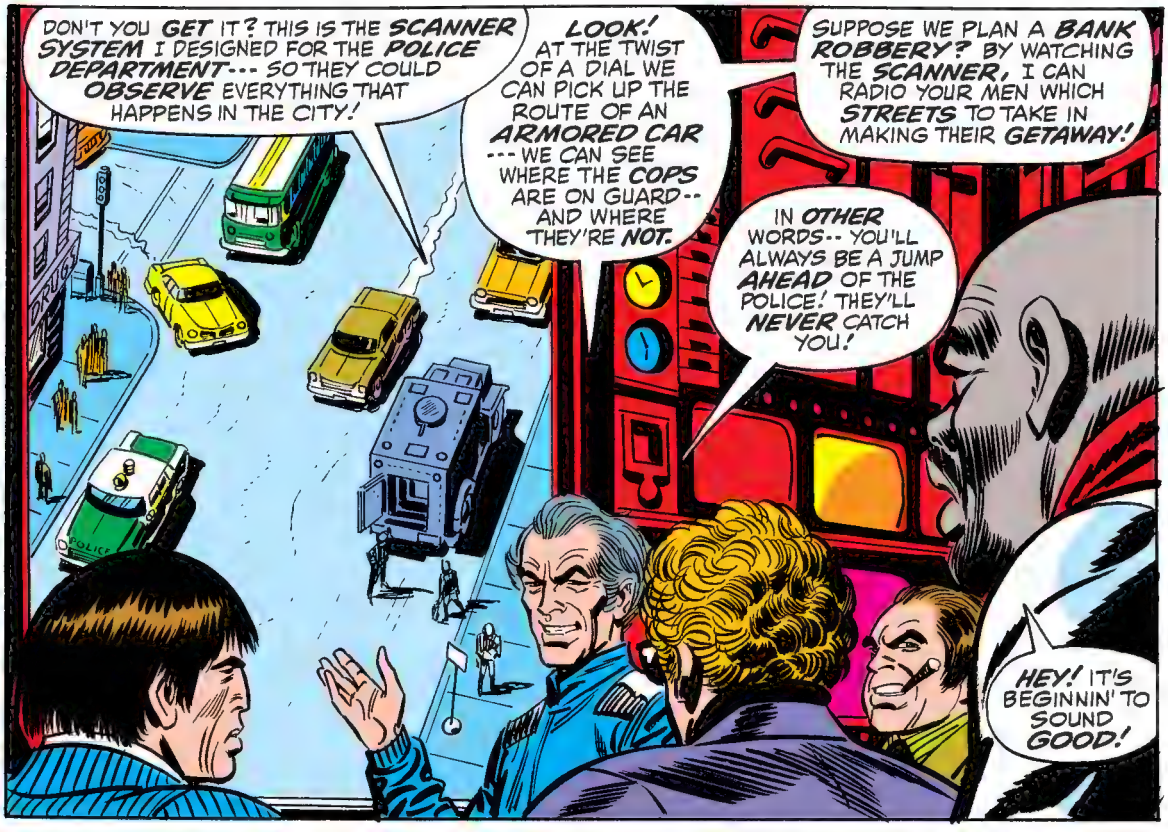

BUT HOW WILL I KNOW WHETHER IT SAW MY REAL FACE OR NOT?
NUTS! I OUGHTTA SMASH IT INTO THE MIDDLE OF---
HEY! WAIT A MINUTE!
IT SAYS "PROPERTY OF THE N.Y. POLICE DEPT."!
DOES THAT MEAN THE LAW'S BEEN TRACKING ME?
I THOUGHT IT WAS PROFESSOR SMYTHE--
I FIGURED IT HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH HIS ROBOT ATTACKING ME*
THWIP!
* IT HAPPENED LAST ISH, ALSO. BUT WE DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOU! -SMUG STAN.
WOW! THERE ARE OTHER SCANNERS-- ON ALMOST EVERY ROOFTOP!
CAN'T PUT 'EM ALL ON THE BLINK.
BUT I CAN'T TAKE CHANCES! WHAT IF THEY DID SEE MY FACE?
I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING-- FAST!
3.


I HAVE IT!
IT'S KINDA FAR-OUT-- BUT IT JUST MIGHT WORK!
I'LL NEED EQUIPMENT! I KNOW! DOC CONNORS' LAB!
SPIDER-MAN!
WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE, OLD FRIEND?
I WAS HOPING YOU'D ASK!
I'M IN A LITTLE JAM, DOC-- I CAN USE A PLACE TO WORK FOR A WHILE.
YOU'VE GOT IT, SPIDEY!
JUST MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.
I-- REALLY APPRECIATE THIS, DOC!
KNOCK IT OFF, MISTER! AFTER ALL YOU'VE DONE FOR ME--!
I'LL LEAVE YOU ALONE NOW! IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU WANT, JUST HOLLER.
I GUESS MY CAREER HASN'T BEEN A TOTAL WASTE.
NOT WHEN I CAN CALL A GENT LIKE THAT MY FRIEND.
I KNEW THAT IF ANYBODY HAD THE MATERIAL I NEED, DOC CONNORS WOULD!
I'VE GOTTA BE CAREFUL-- MIX IT JUST RIGHT.
NOW, JUST A LITTLE GREASE ON MY FACE--
* LIKE WE'VE SHOWN YOU OVER THE YEARS! TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT, OKAY? -- STAN.
4

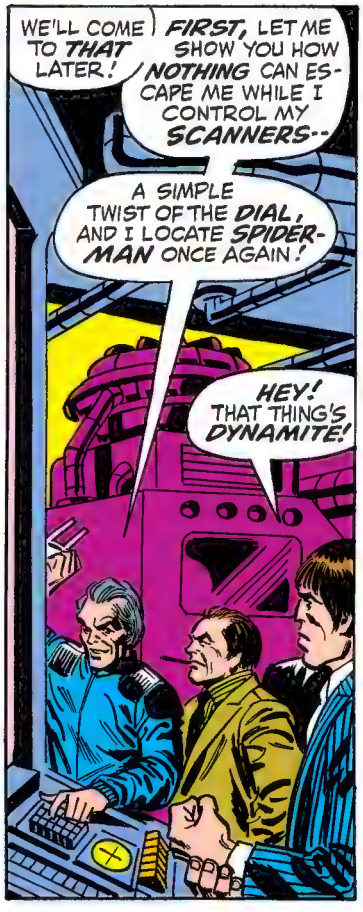

MINUTES LATER---
EASY-- EASY-- HAVE TO MAKE A SOLID MOLD.
NOW-- JUST A FEW MINUTES AND IT'LL BE READY.
IT'LL BE PERFECT ONCE I ADD SOME BLACK PAINT FOR THE EYE-BROWS AND HAIR.
THANKS, DOC! YOU WERE A LIFE-SAVER.
I LEFT EVERY-THING JUST LIKE I FOUND IT.
TOO BAD! I WAS HOPING YOU'D TIDY THE PLACE UP.
ANYWAY, GLAD I WAS ABLE TO HELP.
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT HE'S REALLY THE DEADLY LIZARD.
OH WELL, THAT'S ANOTHER STORY.*
*AND WE HAVEN'T TIME FOR IT NOW! -- STAN
NOW, THE FIRST THING I'VE GOTTA DO IS UNLOAD MY THREADS AGAIN, AND THEN KEEP MY FINGERS CROSSED.
BOY! THERE'S NEVER A DULL MOMENT.
AND, SPEAKING OF DULL MOMENTS, LET'S VISIT JOLLY OL' J. JONAH JAMESON---
BLAST IT! I LOST CONTROL OF SMYTHE'S CRUMMY ROBOT AGAIN!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
5

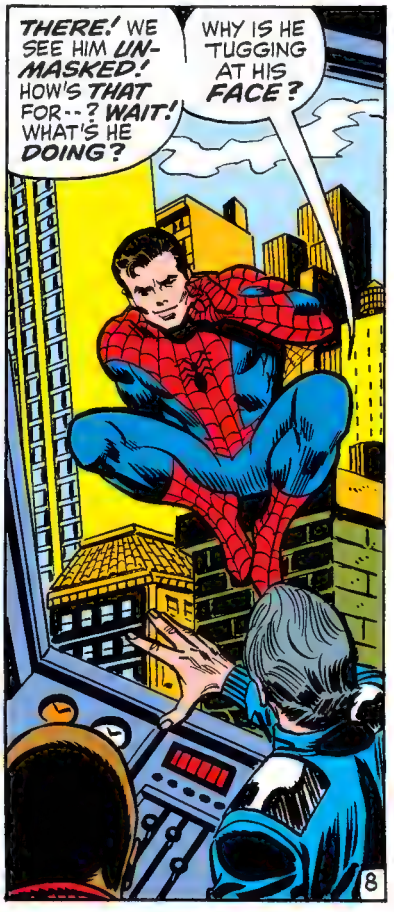
OH NO! NOW THE BLAMED THING JUST WENT UP IN SMOKE!
IT'S A FAKE! I'VE BEEN ROBBED! I--I'LL SUE 'IM!
WHAT HAPPENED, JJ? ANYTHING WRONG HERE?
NOTHING, ROBERTSON-- NOTHING WRONG!
JUST A LITTLE SMOKE, THAT'S ALL!
DIDN'T YOU EVER SEE A LITTLE SMOKE BEFORE?
YEAH! BUT NOT IN THE OFFICE OF THE DAILY BUGLE--AFTER I HEARD A SMALL EXPLOSION BEHIND YOUR DOOR!
DON'T BE AN ALARMIST, ROBBIE! I HATE CITY EDITORS WHO ARE ALARMISTS!
OKAY, JJ-- IF YOU DON'T WANNA TALK ABOUT IT
BUT DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE NEW TV SCANNERS THE POLICE INSTALLED AROUND TOWN?
IT SEEMS THE MASTER CONTROL UNIT WAS STOLEN LAST NIGHT
WELL? DON'T JUST STAND THERE! WRITE IT UP-- WRITE IT UP!
DO I HAVETA DO EVERYTHING AROUND HERE?
AND, BACK TO THE SNEERING, SNICKERING SMYTHE---
THAT FOOL JAMESON! HE'LL NEVER LEARN!
AS IF I HAD ANY INTEREST IN HELPING HIM!
ALL I WANTED WAS HIS CRINKLY GREEN MONEY!
AND NOW THAT I GOT IT, I CAN CONTINUE WITH MY OWN MASTER PLAN!
I MUSTN'T KEEP THE OTHERS WAITING TOO LONG.

WELL, WELL-- THE FOUR TOP GANG LEADERS OF NEW YORK!
I'M FLATTERED THAT YOU ANSWERED MY SUMMONS, GENTLEMEN
GET TO THE POINT, SMYTHE! WE DON'T COOL OUR HEELS FER NOBODY!
WE ONLY SHOWED 'CAUSE YA SAID IT WOULD BE WORTH MILLIONS TO US
AND YA BETTER NOT BE KIDDIN', MISTER!
YOU WILL NOW LEARN THAT PROFESSOR SMYTHE DOES NOT KID!
COME! PLEASE STEP INTO MY SANCTUM
OKAY! OKAY! BUT TALK ENGLISH, LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, HUH?
HERE! SCAN THE CITY ON MY VIEW SCREEN
INTERESTING, ISN'T IT?
WHAT'SA BIG DEAL? WE CAN SEE BETTER ON A NICKLE PICTURE POSTCARD
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, GENTLEMEN! JUST KEEP WATCHING
HEY, MAN--- IF THIS IS SOME KINDA WISE-GUY PUT-ON--
WE DIDN'T COME HERE TA LOOK AT PICTURES
YA BETTER TALK, SMYTHE! HOW'S THIS GONNA BE WORTH MILLIONS TO US?

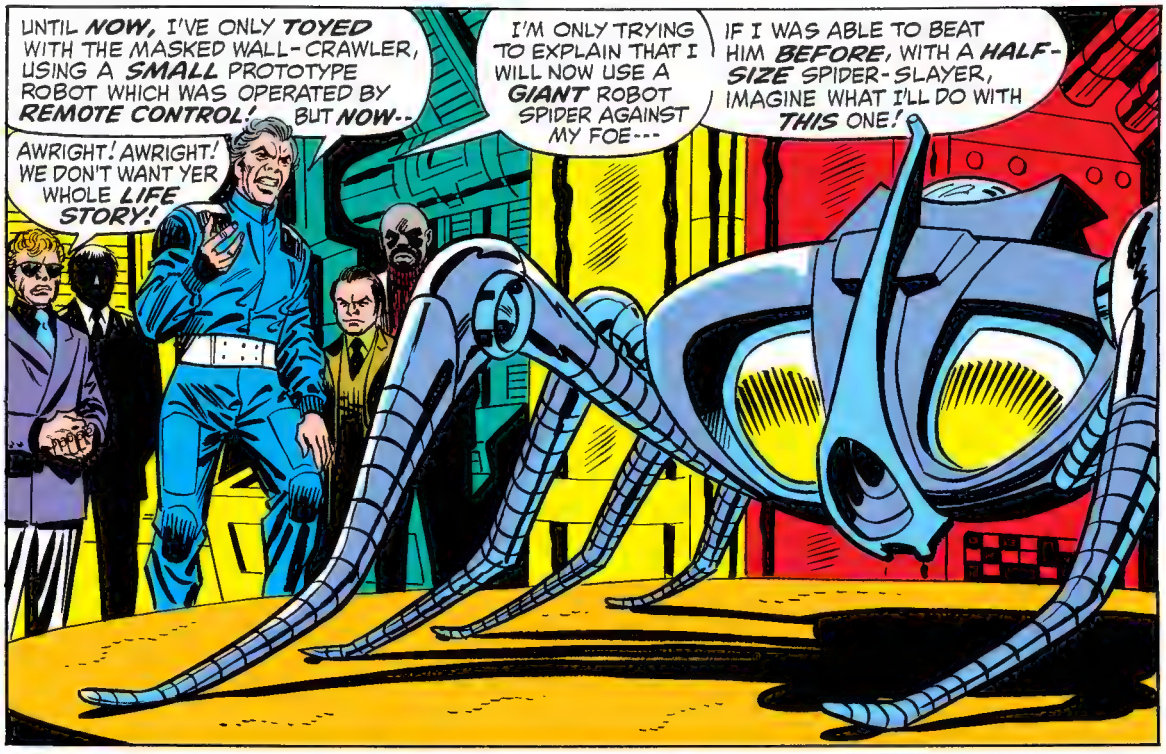

DON'T YOU GET IT? THIS IS THE SCANNER SYSTEM I DESIGNED FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT--- SO THEY COULD OBSERVE EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS IN THE CITY!
LOOK! AT THE TWIST OF A DIAL WE CAN PICK UP THE ROUTE OF AN ARMORED CAR --- WE CAN SEE WHERE THE COPS ARE ON GUARD-- AND WHERE THEY'RE NOT.
SUPPOSE WE PLAN A BANK ROBBERY? BY WATCHING THE SCANNER, I CAN RADIO YOUR MEN WHICH STREETS TO TAKE IN MAKING THEIR GETAWAY!
IN OTHER WORDS-- YOU'LL ALWAYS BE A JUMP AHEAD OF THE POLICE! THEY'LL NEVER CATCH YOU!
HEY! IT'S BEGINNIN' TO SOUND GOOD!
DRUGS
POLICE

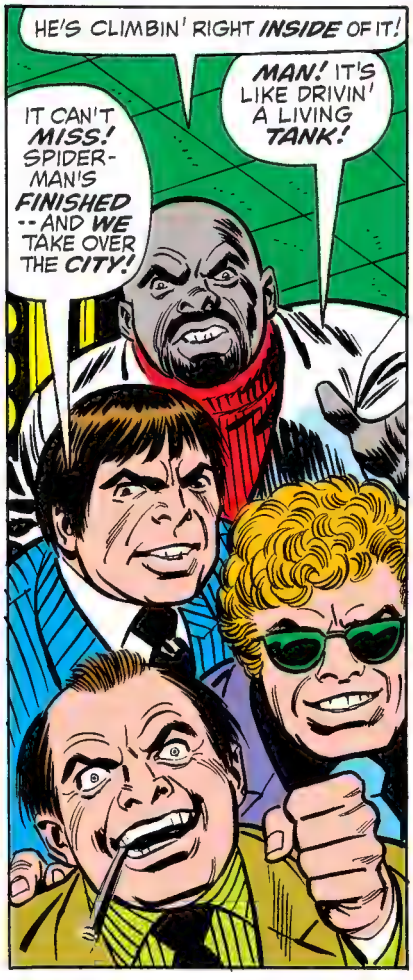
BUT IF YOU DESIGNED THIS FOR THE FUZZ-- HOW COME YOU GOT CONTROL?
EASY! USING MY ROBOT, I MANAGED TO STEAL THE VITAL MASTER CONTROL UNIT! THAT MAKES ME THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN OPERATE IT!
HUH? WHAT, ROBOT?


WE'LL COME TO THAT LATER!
FIRST, LET ME SHOW YOU HOW NOTHING CAN ESCAPE ME WHILE I CONTROL MY SCANNERS--
A SIMPLE TWIST OF THE DIAL, AND I LOCATE SPIDER-MAN ONCE AGAIN!
HEY! THAT THING'S DYNAMITE!

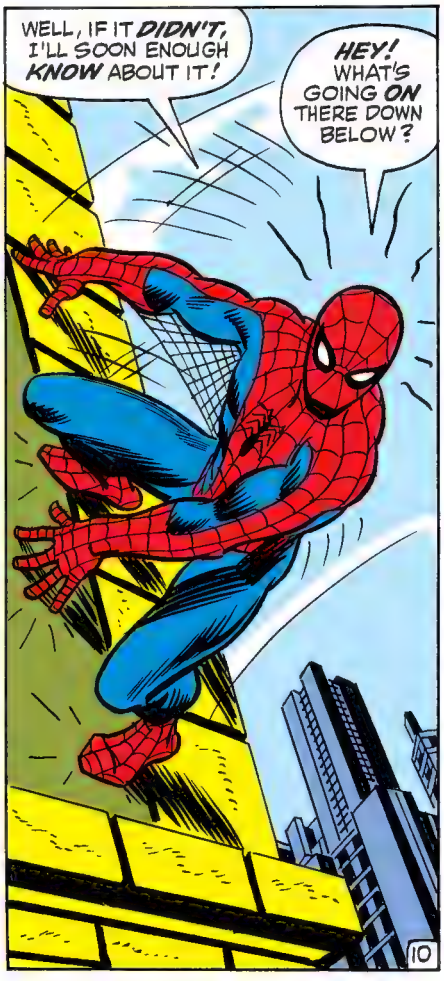

THERE! WE SEE HIM UNMASKED! HOW'S THAT FOR--? WAIT! WHAT'S HE DOING?
WHY IS HE TUGGING AT HIS FACE?

UNMASKED, MY FOOT! IT WAS A MASK HE WUZ WEARIN'! HE'S WAVIN' IT LIKE HE KNOWS WE'RE WATCHIN'!
THAT AIN'T HIS REAL FACE! 'N EVEN IF IT WAS -- SO WHAT?
HE LOOKS LIKE ANY OF A MILLION GUYS! WE STILL WOULDN'T KNOW WHO HE IS.
HE MUSTA KNOWN YOU WUZ WATCHIN'! HE'S PUTTIN' YA ON!
THE WEB-SLINGER'S CLEVER! I UNDER-ESTIMATED HIM.
BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER! I CAN TRACK HIM DOWN ANYTIME!
THE IMPORTANT THING IS-- YOU'VE SEEN HOW THE SCANNER WORKS
YEAH, BUT I DON'T LIKE SPIDER-MAN KNOWIN' ABOUT IT, TOO!
HE'S TOO DANGEROUS! WE DON'T TALK BUSINESS TILL YA PUT 'IM UNDER WRAPS!
I HOPED YOU'D SAY THAT!
THAT'S WHERE MY NEW ROBOT COMES IN!
9.


UNTIL NOW, I'VE ONLY TOYED WITH THE MASKED WALL-CRAWLER, USING A SMALL PROTOTYPE ROBOT WHICH WAS OPERATED BY REMOTE CONTROL! BUT NOW--
AWRIGHT! AWRIGHT! WE DON'T WANT YER WHOLE LIFE STORY!
I'M ONLY TRYING TO EXPLAIN THAT I WILL NOW USE A GIANT ROBOT SPIDER AGAINST MY FOE---
IF I WAS ABLE TO BEAT HIM BEFORE, WITH A HALF-SIZE SPIDER-SLAYER, IMAGINE WHAT I'LL DO WITH THIS ONE!

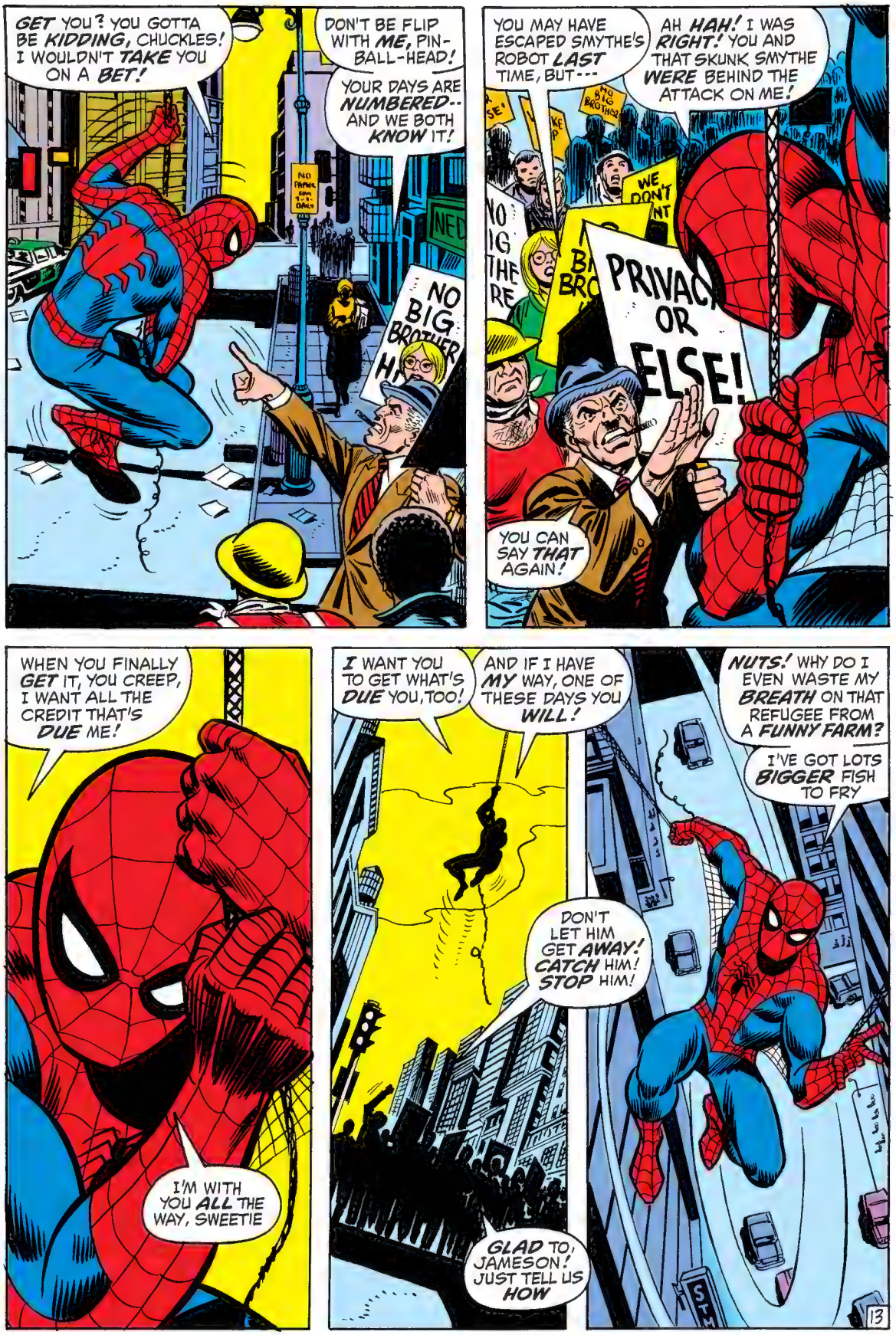

HE'S CLIMBIN' RIGHT INSIDE OF IT!
MAN! IT'S LIKE DRIVIN' A LIVING TANK!
IT CAN'T MISS! SPIDER-MAN'S FINISHED --AND WE TAKE OVER THE CITY!

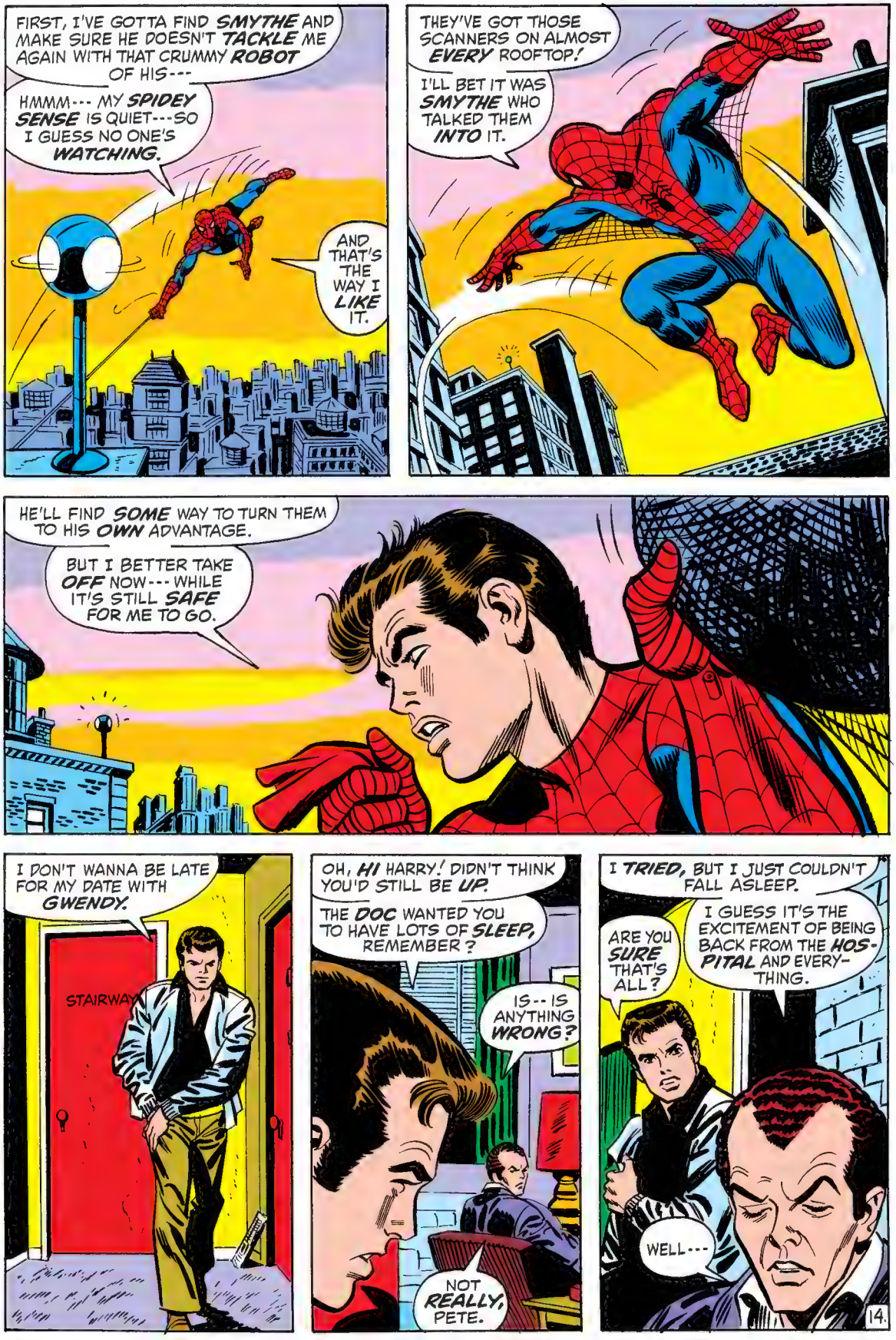
BUT LUCKILY, OUR HERO STILL DOESN'T KNOW WHAT'S IN STORE FOR HIM---
I HOPE THAT MASK ACT DID THE TRICK.


WELL, IF IT DIDN'T, I'LL SOON ENOUGH KNOW ABOUT IT!
HEY! WHAT'S GOING ON THERE DOWN BELOW?

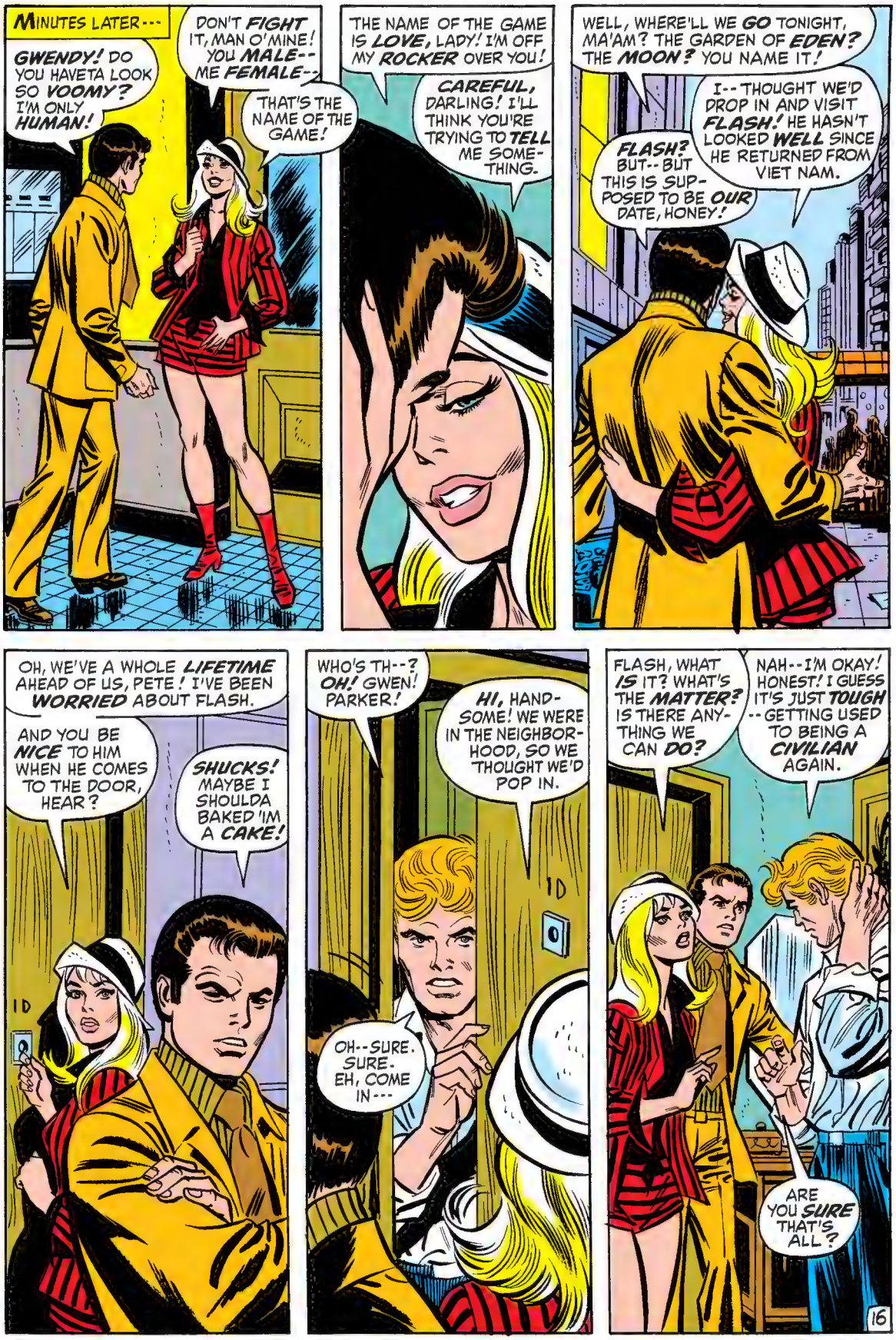
THERE'S ANOTHER PROTEST RALLY IN FRONT OF THE BUGLE!
I WONDER WHAT THIS ONE'S ALL ABOUT?
DAILY BUGLE
NO BIG EARS
NO BIG BRO
WELL WIGGLE MY WEBS AND CALL ME SHAKY-- I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
IT LOOKS LIKE JOLLY JONAH HIMSELF IS THE LEADER OF THE DEMONSTRATION!
NOW I GET IT! THEY'RE PROTESTING THE TV SCANNERS THAT THE POLICE HAVE INSTALLED.
DAILY BUGLE
SPY 'EYES' OVER CITY
I GUESS EVEN JJ STILL BELIEVES IN PRIVACY!
NO SPIES IN THE SKY!
EYES ON ALL
PRIVACY OR ELSE
NO BIG BRO-
SOUL BROTHER NOT BIG BROTHER
OKAY! WHAT'RE YOU WAITING FOR? START CHANTING!
11.

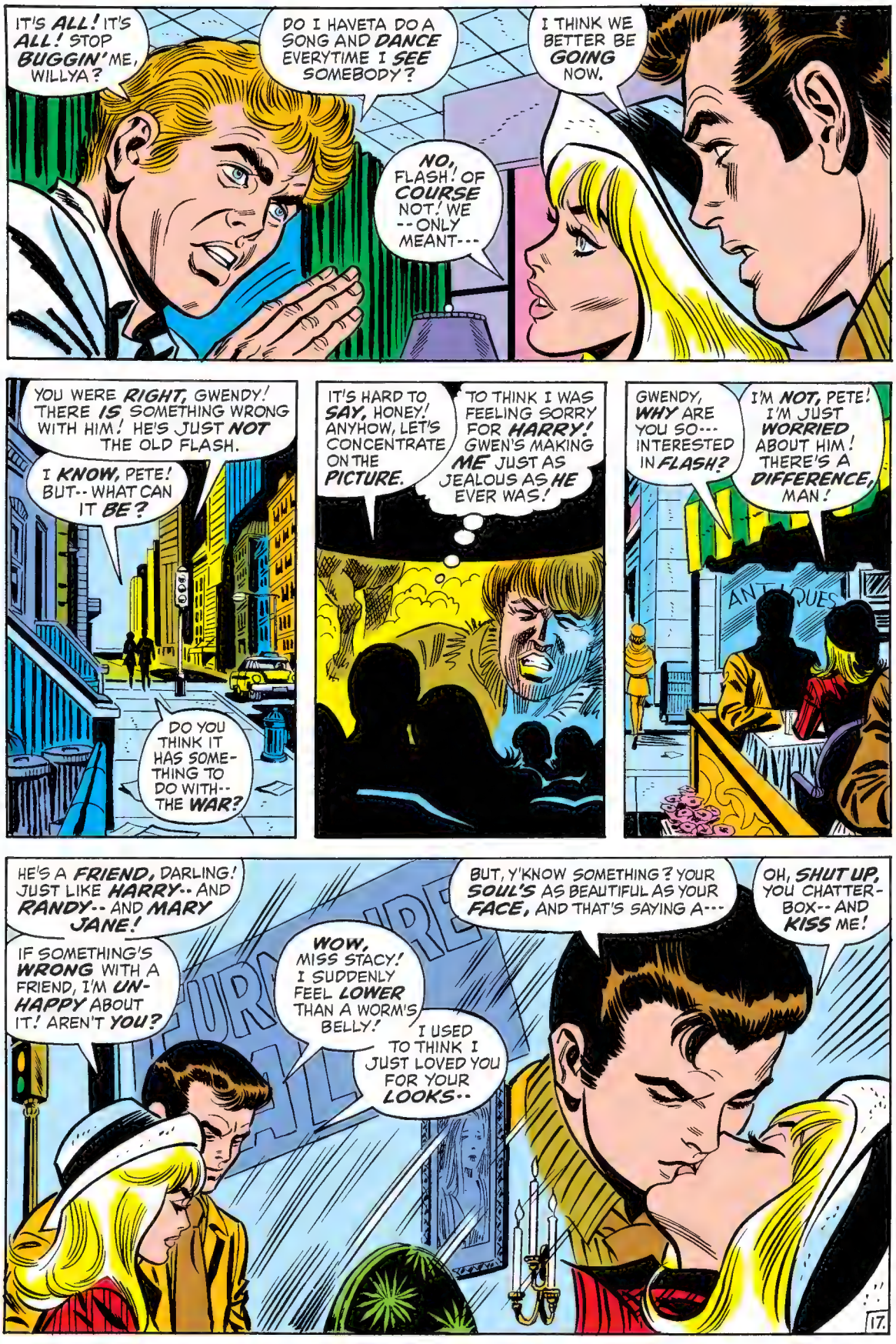
HEY, DAD-- IS THAT FOR REAL? OL' JAMESON LEADIN' THE PROTESTORS?
YOU BETTER BELIEVE IT, RANDY! HE'S A BUG ON CIVIL LIBERTIES.
DAIL BUGI
STAY AWAK THEY WILL!
--'LONG AS THEY'RE NOT SPIDER-MAN'S!
I GUESS NO ONE LIKES BEING SPIED UPON--EVEN IF THE MOTIVES ARE GOOD.
WOW! I WISH I HAD LOADED MY CAMERA!
WHAT A PICTURE--- JOE ROBERTSON'S SON, RANDY, SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH J. JONAH HIMSELF!
MAYBE I OUGHTTA SWING DOWN AND SAY HELLO.
PRIVACY OR ELSE!
NO BIG BROTHER
WHAT THE HECK-- I'LL LEND THEM MY MORAL SUPPORT
RIGHT ON, GANG! I'M WITH YOU ALL THE WAY!
SPIDER-MAN!
STOP HIM! DON'T LET HIM GET ME!
NO BIG BROTHER JUST SOUL BROTHER
PARKIAN

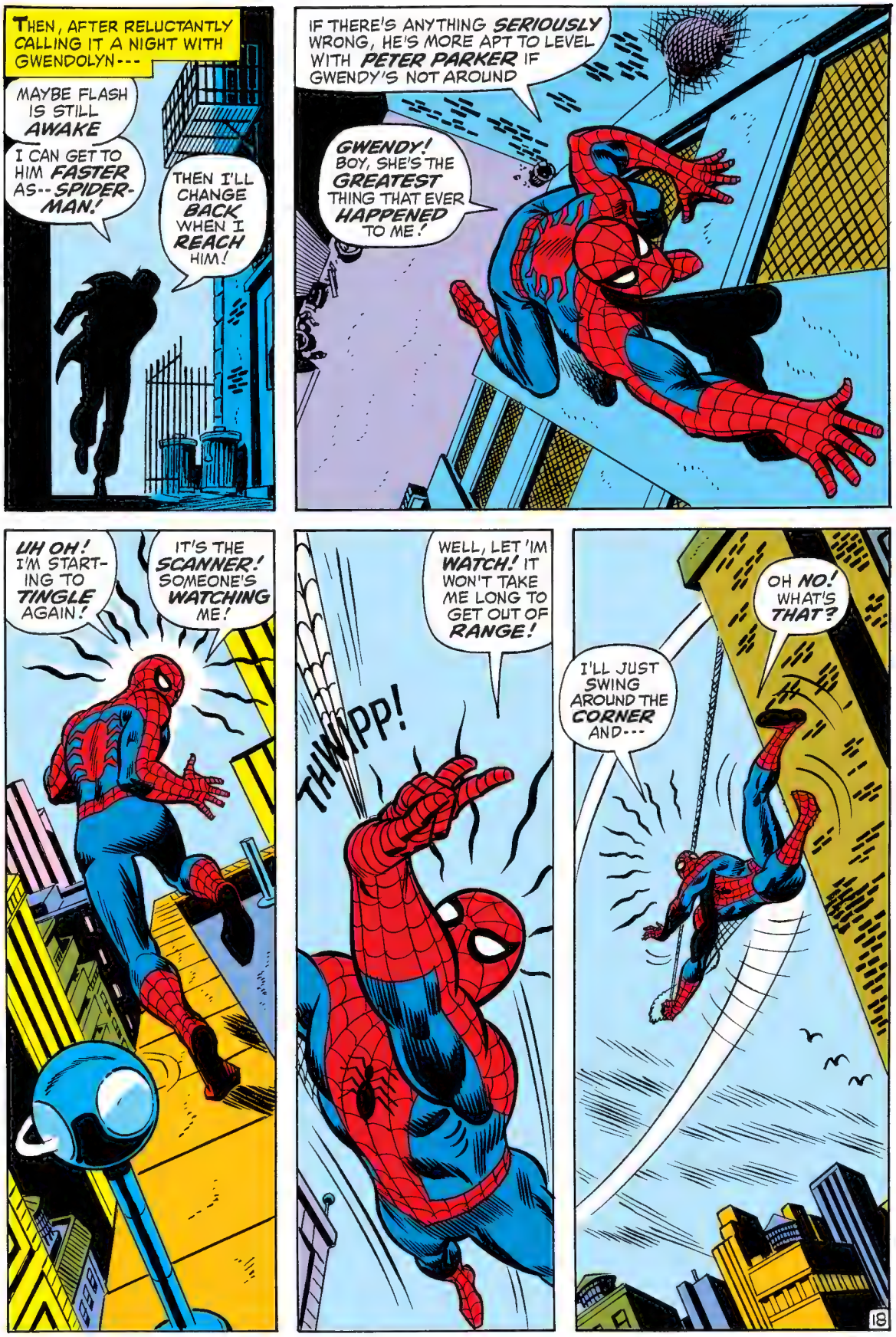

GET YOU? YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING, CHUCKLES! I WOULDN'T TAKE YOU ON A BET!
DON'T BE FLIP WITH ME, PIN-BALL-HEAD!
YOUR DAYS ARE NUMBERED-- AND WE BOTH KNOW IT!
NO BIG BROTHER
YOU MAY HAVE ESCAPED SMYTHE'S ROBOT LAST TIME, BUT---
AH HAH! I WAS RIGHT! YOU AND THAT SKUNK SMYTHE WERE BEHIND THE ATTACK ON ME!
PRIVACY OR ELSE!
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!
WHEN YOU FINALLY GET IT, YOU CREEP, I WANT ALL THE CREDIT THAT'S DUE ME!
I'M WITH YOU ALL THE WAY, SWEETIE
I WANT YOU TO GET WHAT'S DUE YOU, TOO!
AND IF I HAVE MY WAY, ONE OF THESE DAYS YOU WILL!
DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY! CATCH HIM! STOP HIM!
GLAD TO, JAMESON! JUST TELL US HOW
NUTS! WHY DO I EVEN WASTE MY BREATH ON THAT REFUGEE FROM A FUNNY FARM?
I'VE GOT LOTS BIGGER FISH TO FRY
13

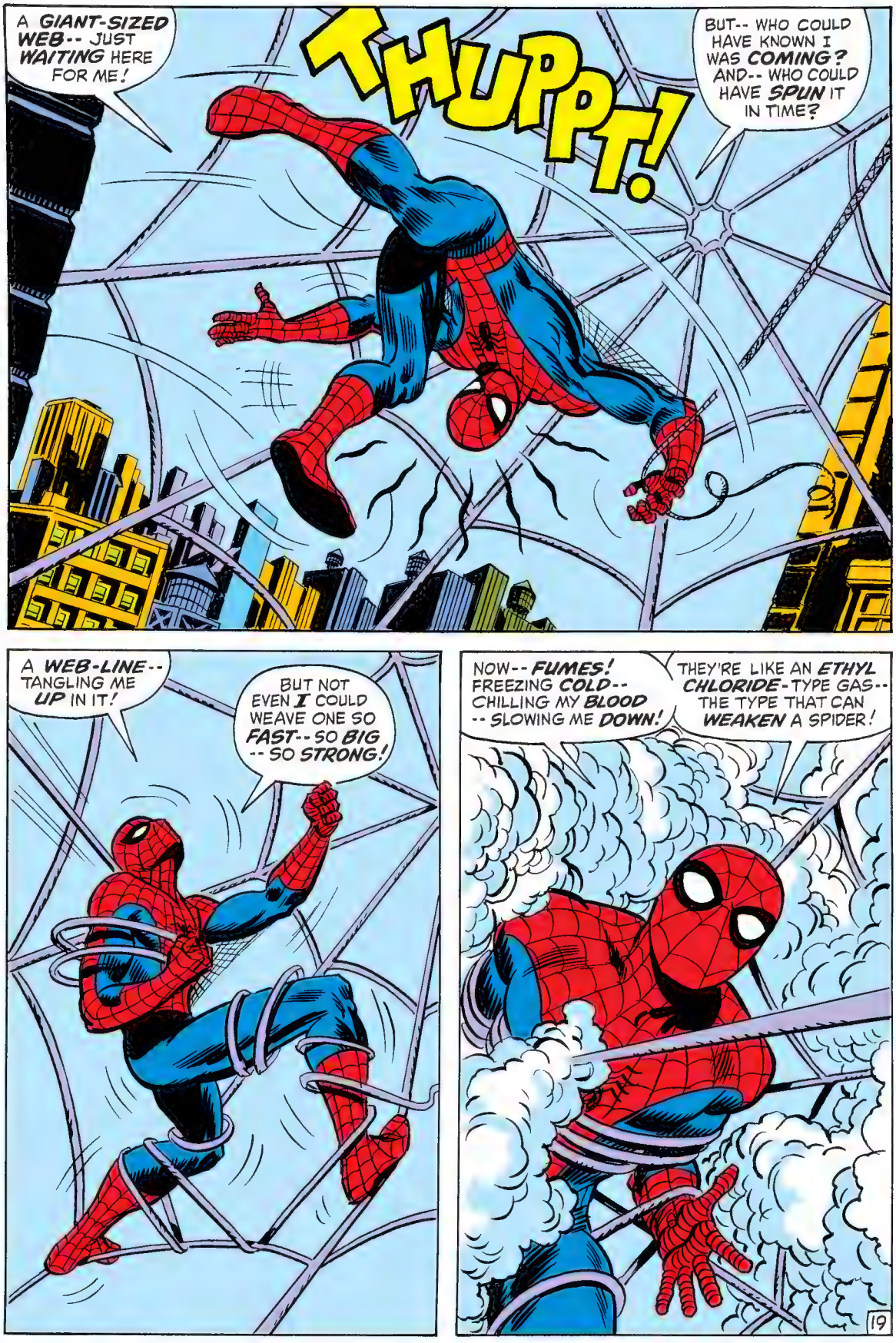

FIRST, I'VE GOTTA FIND SMYTHE AND MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T TACKLE ME AGAIN WITH THAT CRUMMY ROBOT OF HIS---
HMMM--- MY SPIDEY SENSE IS QUIET---SO I GUESS NO ONE'S WATCHING.
AND THAT'S THE WAY I LIKE IT.
THEY'VE GOT THOSE SCANNERS ON ALMOST EVERY ROOFTOP!
I'LL BET IT WAS SMYTHE WHO TALKED THEM INTO IT.
HE'LL FIND SOME WAY TO TURN THEM TO HIS OWN ADVANTAGE.
BUT I BETTER TAKE OFF NOW--- WHILE IT'S STILL SAFE FOR ME TO GO.
I DON'T WANNA BE LATE FOR MY DATE WITH GWENDY.
STAIRWAY
OH, HI HARRY! DIDN'T THINK YOU'D STILL BE UP.
THE DOC WANTED YOU TO HAVE LOTS OF SLEEP, REMEMBER?
IS--IS ANYTHING WRONG?
NOT REALLY, PETE.
I TRIED, BUT I JUST COULDN'T FALL ASLEEP.
I GUESS IT'S THE EXCITEMENT OF BEING BACK FROM THE HOSPITAL AND EVERYTHING.
ARE YOU SURE THAT'S ALL?
WELL---
14.

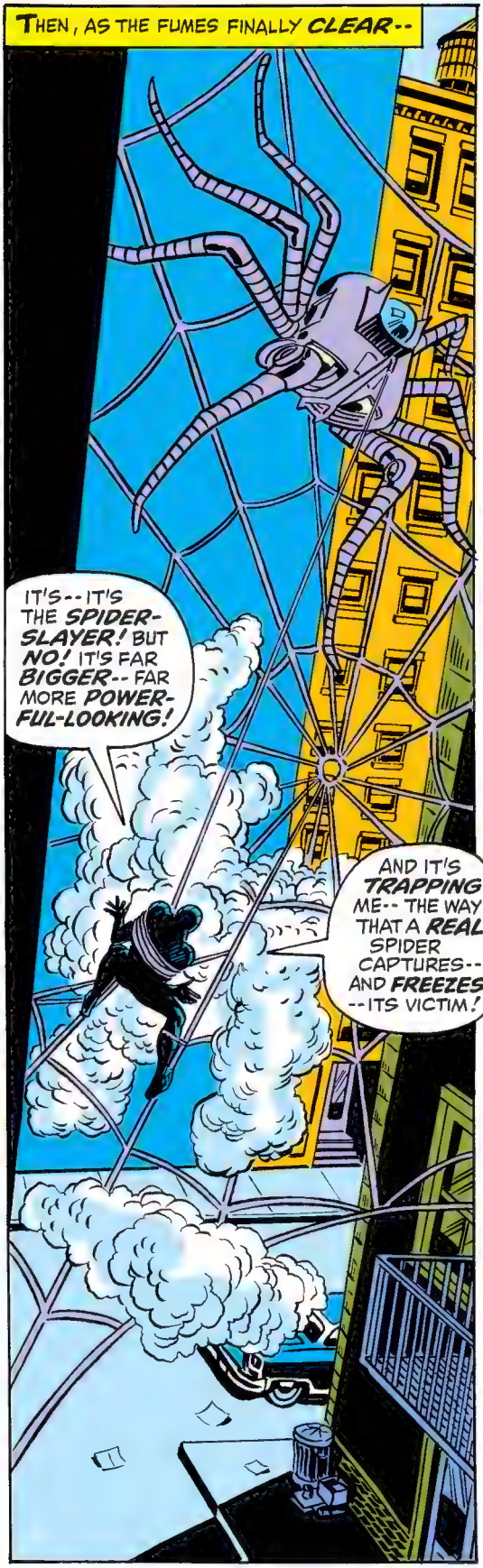
AS A MATTER OF FACT, PETE, I'VE BEEN KIND OF WORRIED--
YEAH--- THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
IT'S MARY JANE, ISN'T IT?
YEAH! I-- I JUST CAN'T GET HER TO TAKE ME SERIOUSLY NO MATTER HOW I TRY.
MAYBE THAT'S THE TROUBLE, HARR.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
LOOK, I'M NO DEAR ABBY-- BUT WITH SOME CHICKS YOU CAN TRY TOO HARD.
YES! I-- I THOUGHT OF THAT.
IF I WERE YOU I'D COOL IT WITH HER! MAKE HER WONDER WHAT--- HOLD IT!
THAT SOUNDS LIKE MJ NOW.
HEY! THAT PIZZA SMELLS OUTTASITE!
YOU KNOW IT, MAN! WE BROUGHT IT FOR LITTLE HARRY!
COME 'N GET IT, SUNSHINE!
SAY, PETEYKINS-- I DIDN'T KNOW YOU'D BE HERE! THIS MAKES IT A REAL PARTY!
HOW'S ABOUT THEE AND ME CUTTIN' OUT AND--?
NO WAY, LADY.
I'M ON MY WAY TO PICK UP GWENDY.
OH, YOU LOST A BET AGAIN, HUH? POOR GUY!
THAT KIND OF LOSER I'D BE ANY TIME!
POOR HARRY! WHY DOES HE HAVE TO DIG A GAL LIKE MJ?
AND WHY WON'T SHE KEEP OFF MY BACK? SHE KNOWS WHAT IT MUST DO TO HIM!
15

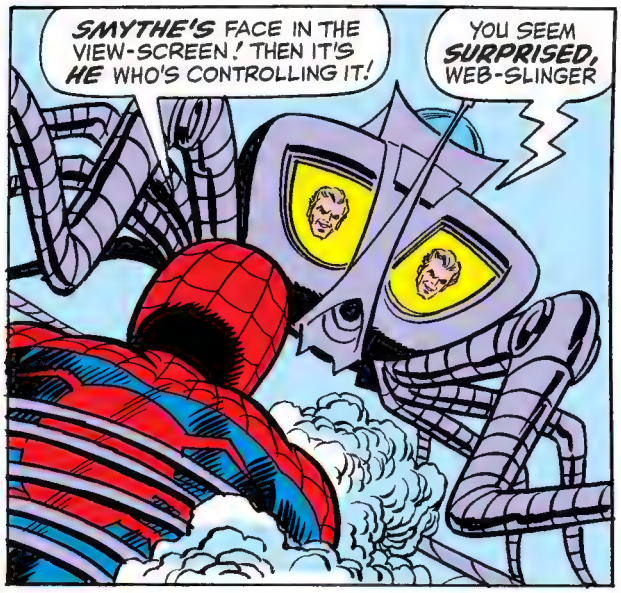

MINUTES LATER---
GWENDY! DO YOU HAVETA LOOK SO VOOMY? I'M ONLY HUMAN!
DON'T FIGHT IT, MAN O'MINE! YOU MALE-- ME FEMALE--
THAT'S THE NAME OF THE GAME!
THE NAME OF THE GAME IS LOVE, LADY! I'M OFF MY ROCKER OVER YOU!
CAREFUL, DARLING! I'LL THINK YOU'RE TRYING TO TELL ME SOMETHING.
WELL, WHERE'LL WE GO TONIGHT, MA'AM? THE GARDEN OF EDEN? THE MOON? YOU NAME IT!
I--THOUGHT WE'D DROP IN AND VISIT FLASH! HE HASN'T LOOKED WELL SINCE HE RETURNED FROM VIET NAM.
FLASH? BUT--BUT THIS IS SUPPOSED TO BE OUR DATE, HONEY!
OH, WE'VE A WHOLE LIFETIME AHEAD OF US, PETE! I'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT FLASH.
AND YOU BE NICE TO HIM WHEN HE COMES TO THE DOOR, HEAR?
SHUCKS! MAYBE I SHOULDA BAKED 'IM A CAKE!
WHO'S TH--? OH! GWEN! PARKER!
HI, HANDSOME! WE WERE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, SO WE THOUGHT WE'D POP IN.
OH--SURE. SURE. EH, COME IN---
FLASH, WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S THE MATTER? IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO?
NAH--I'M OKAY! HONEST! I GUESS IT'S JUST TOUGH--GETTING USED TO BEING A CIVILIAN AGAIN.
ARE YOU SURE THAT'S ALL?
16

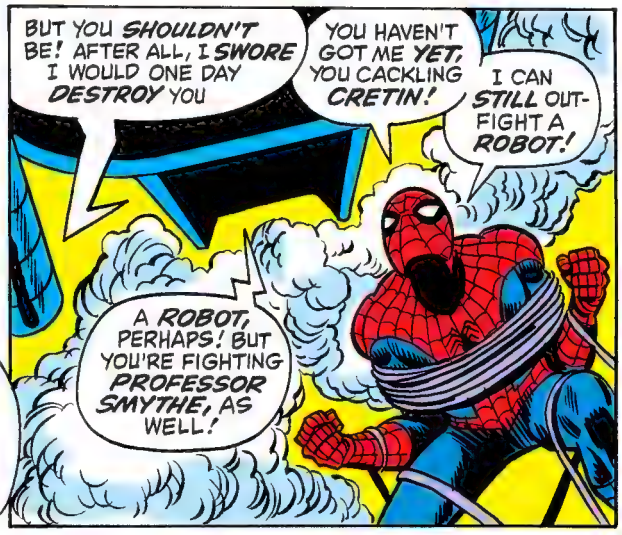

IT'S ALL! IT'S ALL! STOP BUGGIN' ME, WILLYA?
DO I HAVETA DO A SONG AND DANCE EVERYTIME I SEE SOMEBODY?
I THINK WE BETTER BE GOING NOW.
NO, FLASH! OF COURSE NOT! WE --ONLY MEANT---
YOU WERE RIGHT, GWENDY! THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG WITH HIM! HE'S JUST NOT THE OLD FLASH.
I KNOW, PETE! BUT-- WHAT CAN IT BE?
DO YOU THINK IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH-- THE WAR?
IT'S HARD TO SAY, HONEY! ANYHOW, LET'S CONCENTRATE ON THE PICTURE.
TO THINK I WAS FEELING SORRY FOR HARRY! GWEN'S MAKING ME JUST AS JEALOUS AS HE EVER WAS!
GWENDY, WHY ARE YOU SO--- INTERESTED IN FLASH?
I'M NOT, PETE! I'M JUST WORRIED ABOUT HIM! THERE'S A DIFFERENCE, MAN!
ANTIQUES
HE'S A FRIEND, DARLING! JUST LIKE HARRY-- AND RANDY-- AND MARY JANE!
IF SOMETHING'S WRONG WITH A FRIEND, I'M UNHAPPY ABOUT IT! AREN'T YOU?
WOW, MISS STACY! I SUDDENLY FEEL LOWER THAN A WORM'S BELLY!
I USED TO THINK I JUST LOVED YOU FOR YOUR LOOKS--
BUT, Y'KNOW SOMETHING? YOUR SOUL'S AS BEAUTIFUL AS YOUR FACE, AND THAT'S SAYING A---
OH, SHUT UP, YOU CHATTERBOX-- AND KISS ME!

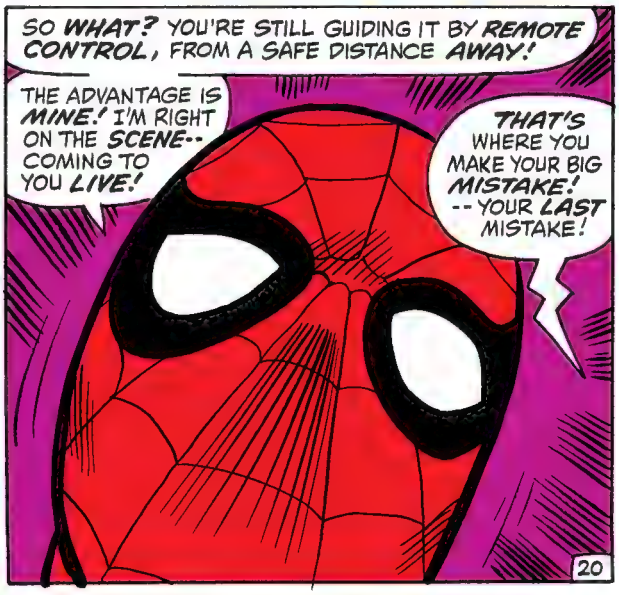

THEN, AFTER RELUCTANTLY CALLING IT A NIGHT WITH GWENDOLYN---
MAYBE FLASH IS STILL AWAKE
I CAN GET TO HIM FASTER AS--SPIDER-MAN!
THEN I'LL CHANGE BACK WHEN I REACH HIM!
IF THERE'S ANYTHING SERIOUSLY WRONG, HE'S MORE APT TO LEVEL WITH PETER PARKER IF GWENDY'S NOT AROUND
GWENDY! BOY, SHE'S THE GREATEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO ME!
UH OH! I'M START-ING TO TINGLE AGAIN!
IT'S THE SCANNER! SOMEONE'S WATCHING ME!
WELL, LET 'IM WATCH! IT WON'T TAKE ME LONG TO GET OUT OF RANGE!
THWIPP!
I'LL JUST SWING AROUND THE CORNER AND---
OH NO! WHAT'S THAT?
18

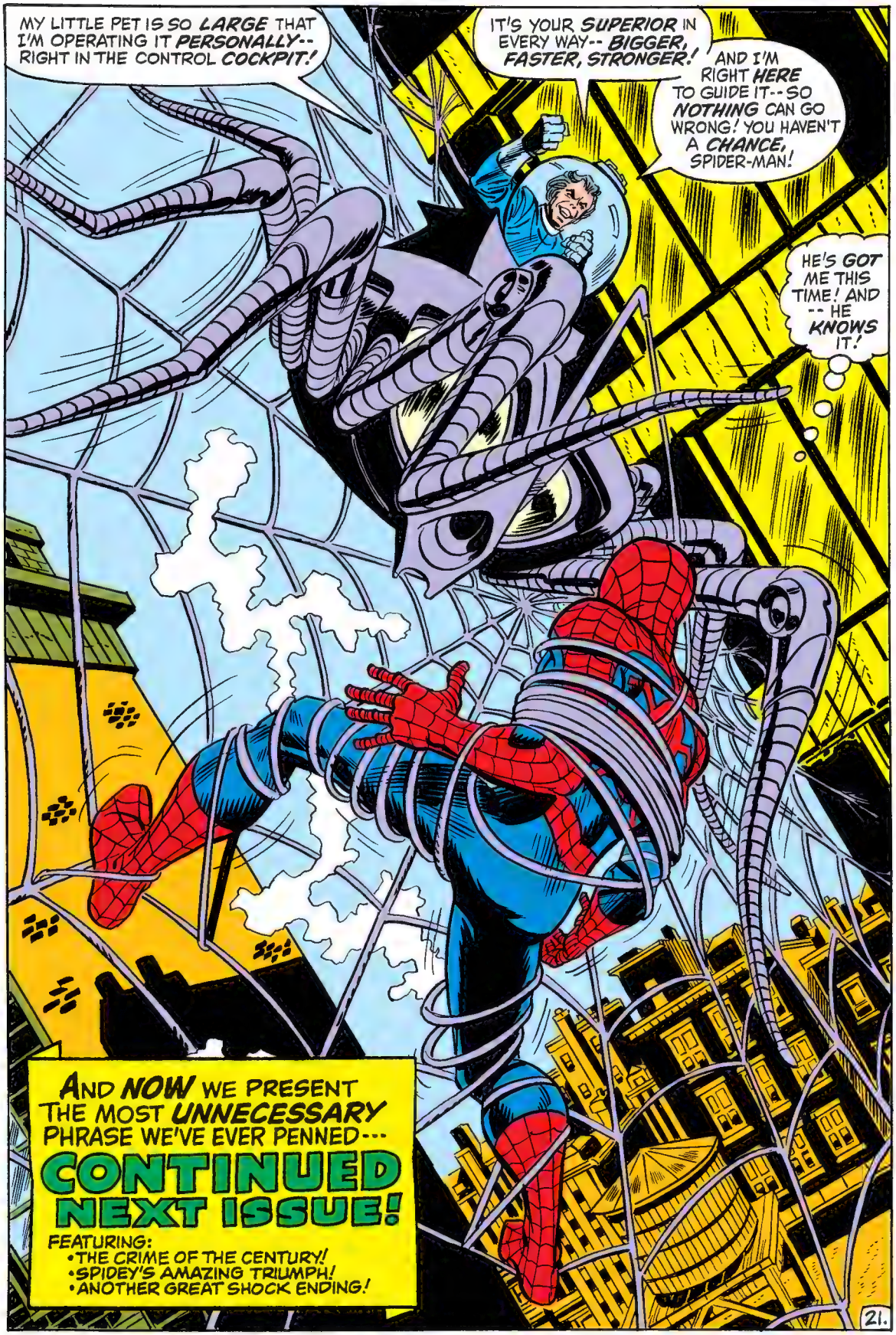

A GIANT-SIZED WEB-- JUST WAITING HERE FOR ME!
THUPPT!
BUT-- WHO COULD HAVE KNOWN I WAS COMING? AND-- WHO COULD HAVE SPUN IT IN TIME?
A WEB-LINE-- TANGLING ME UP IN IT!
BUT NOT EVEN I COULD WEAVE ONE SO FAST-- SO BIG -- SO STRONG!
NOW-- FUMES! FREEZING COLD-- CHILLING MY BLOOD -- SLOWING ME DOWN!
THEY'RE LIKE AN ETHYL CHLORIDE-TYPE GAS-- THE TYPE THAT CAN WEAKEN A SPIDER!
19


THEN, AS THE FUMES FINALLY CLEAR--
IT'S--IT'S THE SPIDER-SLAYER! BUT NO! IT'S FAR BIGGER--FAR MORE POWERFUL-LOOKING!
AND IT'S TRAPPING ME--THE WAY THAT A REAL SPIDER CAPTURES--AND FREEZES--ITS VICTIM!


SMYTHE'S FACE IN THE VIEW-SCREEN! THEN IT'S HE WHO'S CONTROLLING IT!
YOU SEEM SURPRISED, WEB-SLINGER


BUT YOU SHOULDN'T BE! AFTER ALL, I SWORE I WOULD ONE DAY DESTROY YOU
YOU HAVEN'T GOT ME YET, YOU CACKLING CRETIN!
I CAN STILL OUT-FIGHT A ROBOT!
A ROBOT, PERHAPS! BUT YOU'RE FIGHTING PROFESSOR SMYTHE, AS WELL!


SO WHAT? YOU'RE STILL GUIDING IT BY REMOTE CONTROL, FROM A SAFE DISTANCE AWAY!
THE ADVANTAGE IS MINE! I'M RIGHT ON THE SCENE--COMING TO YOU LIVE!
THAT'S WHERE YOU MAKE YOUR BIG MISTAKE! --YOUR LAST MISTAKE!


MY LITTLE PET IS SO LARGE THAT I'M OPERATING IT PERSONALLY-- RIGHT IN THE CONTROL COCKPIT!
IT'S YOUR SUPERIOR IN EVERY WAY-- BIGGER, FASTER, STRONGER!
AND I'M RIGHT HERE TO GUIDE IT--SO NOTHING CAN GO WRONG! YOU HAVEN'T A CHANCE, SPIDER-MAN!
HE'S GOT ME THIS TIME! AND -- HE KNOWS IT!
AND NOW WE PRESENT THE MOST UNNECESSARY PHRASE WE'VE EVER PENNED---
CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE!
FEATURING:
•THE CRIME OF THE CENTURY!
•SPIDEY'S AMAZING TRIUMPH!
•ANOTHER GREAT SHOCK ENDING!

SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL COMICS GROUP™
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
I'VE GOT YOU AT LAST!
IN THIS GREAT LAND-MARK ISSUE: YOU'LL THRILL TO... SPIDEY'S GREATEST TRIUMPH!
--THOUGH IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE IT RIGHT NOW!
TRAPPED--BY THE TENTACLES OF DEATH!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™

SPIDEY SMASHES THRU!
YOU'RE FINISHED, WEB-SPINNER! I'VE BEATEN YOU AT LAST!*
HE'S RIGHT! THAT ICY ETHYL CHLORIDE SPRAY HE DOUSED ME WITH HAS WEAKENED ME--SLOWED ME DOWN! I--CAN'T BREAK FREE!
MY ONLY HOPE IS TO KEEP HIM TALKING--TO LET HIM GO ON BOASTING AS LONG AS POSSIBLE--WHILE I WAIT FOR THE FUMES TO WEAR OFF!
HOW'D YOU DO IT, SMYTHE? YOU MAKE IT SOUND SO EASY?
IT WAS EASY! NO STUPID COSTUMED FREAK CAN BE A MATCH FOR PROFESSOR SMYTHE!
*IT HAPPENED LAST ISH, BUT DON'T GET UPTIGHT IF YOU MISSED IT! WE'LL SPELL IT OUT AS WE ZOOM ALONG! (BUT DON'T LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN, HEAR?) --SENSITIVE STAN.
PRODUCED BY: STAN LEE & J. ROMITA
INKING: F. GIACOIA
LETTERING: ARTIE SIMEK
(ACADEMY AWARDS COMMITTEE, PLEASE NOTE!)
FASTEN YOUR SEAT-BELT, SPIDEY-FAN! THIS ONE'S LONG ON ACTION!
852

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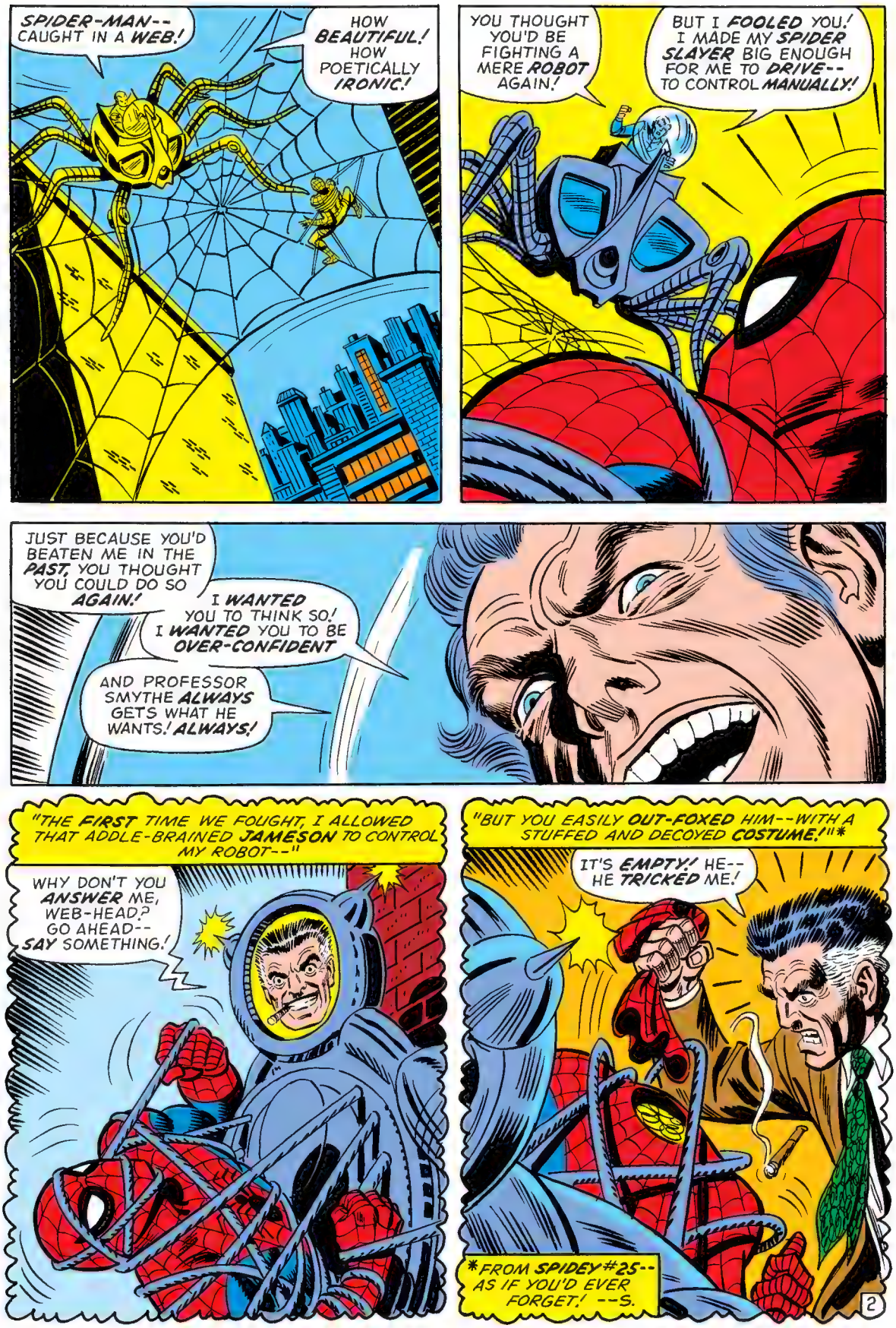
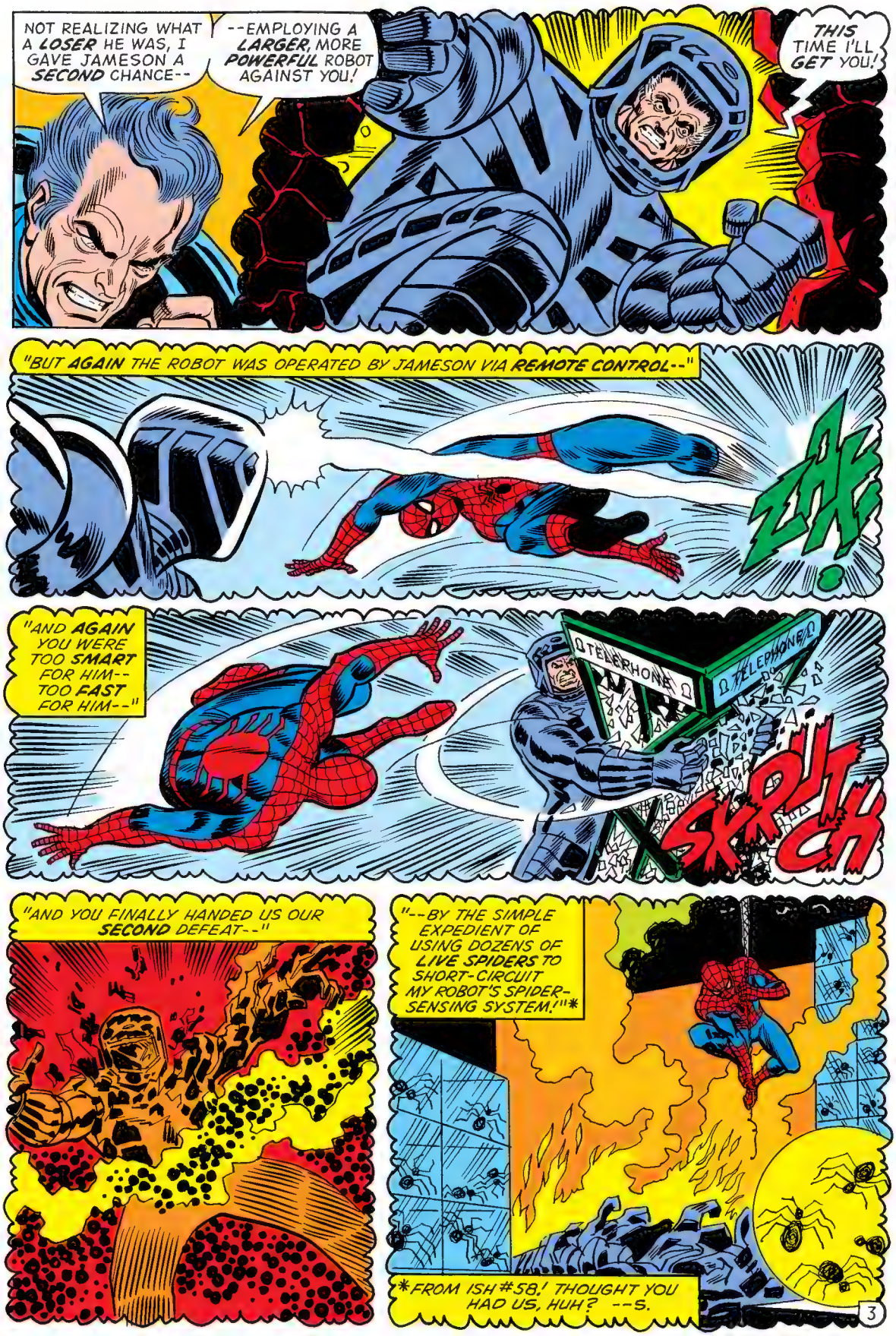
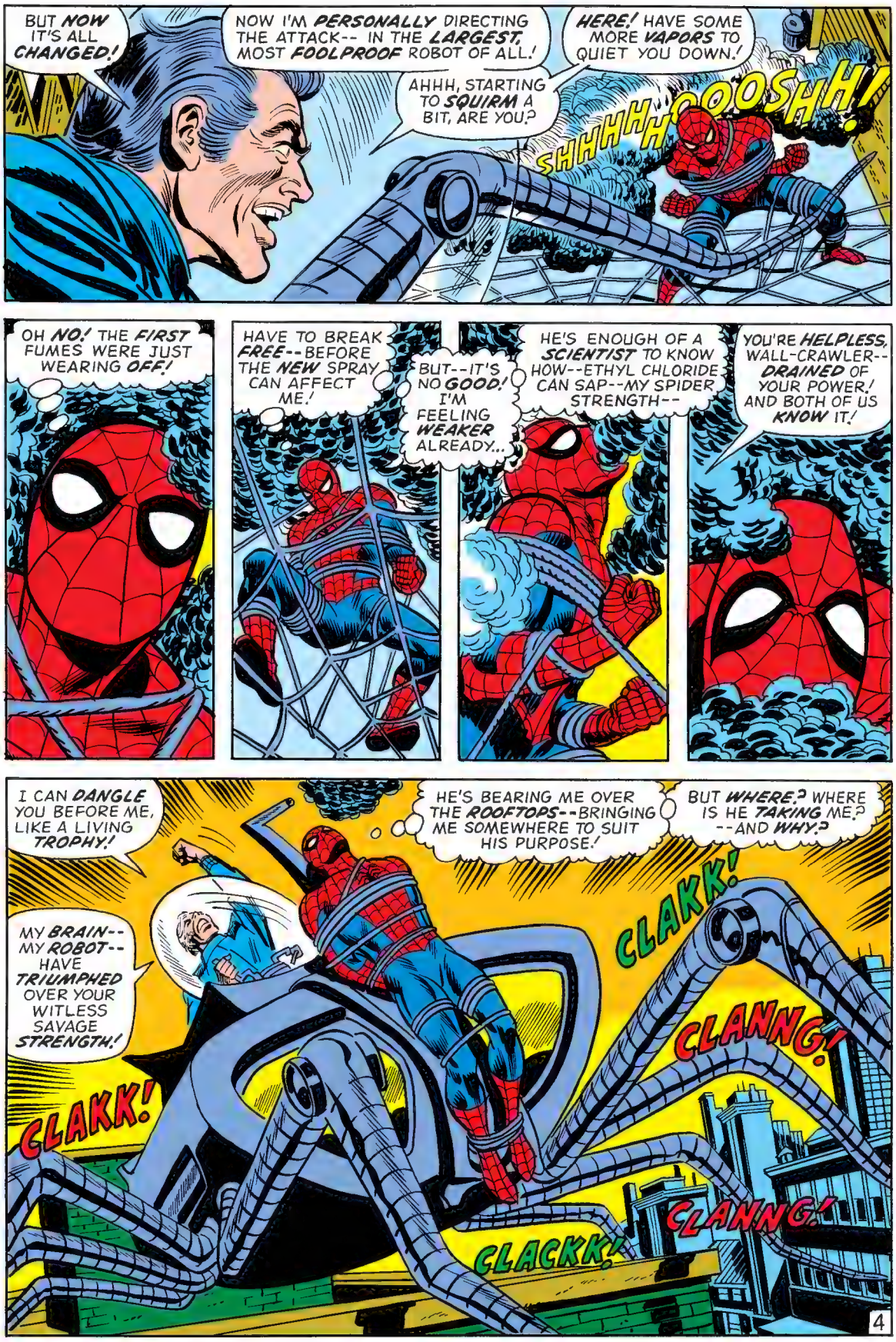
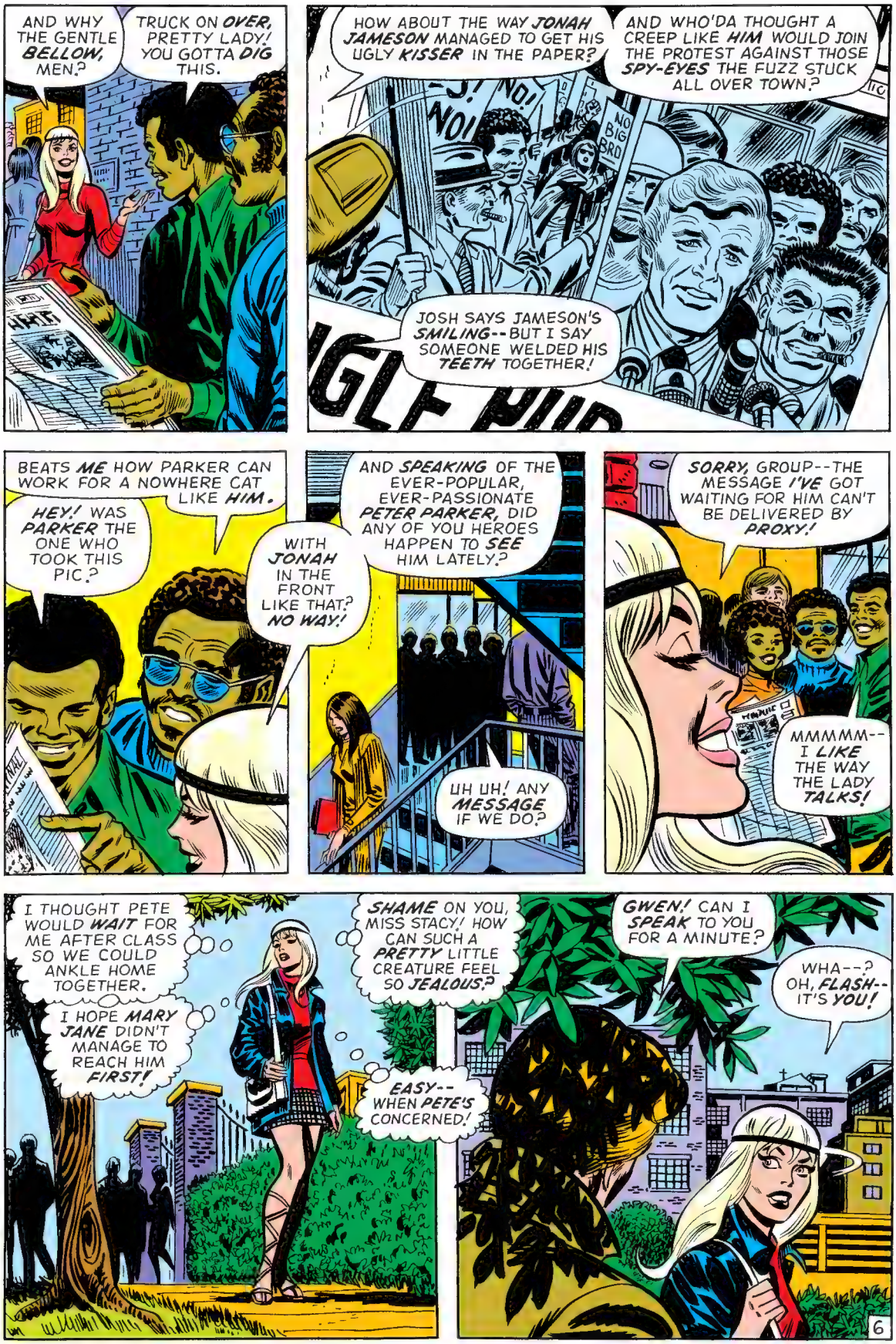
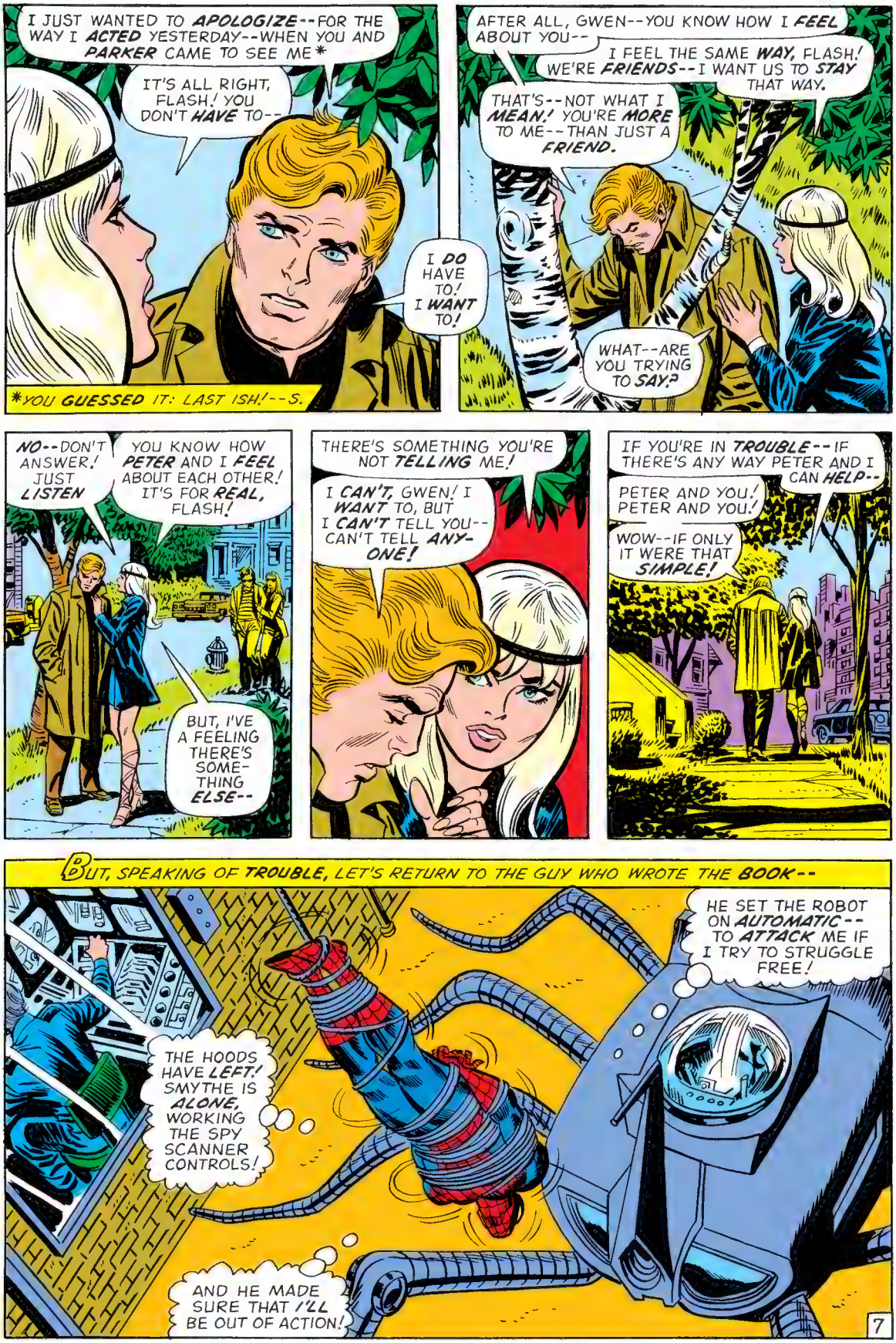

SPIDER-MAN-- CAUGHT IN A WEB!
HOW BEAUTIFUL! HOW POETICALLY IRONIC!
YOU THOUGHT YOU'D BE FIGHTING A MERE ROBOT AGAIN!
BUT I FOOLED YOU! I MADE MY SPIDER SLAYER BIG ENOUGH FOR ME TO DRIVE-- TO CONTROL MANUALLY!
JUST BECAUSE YOU'D BEATEN ME IN THE PAST, YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD DO SO AGAIN!
I WANTED YOU TO THINK SO! I WANTED YOU TO BE OVER-CONFIDENT
AND PROFESSOR SMYTHE ALWAYS GETS WHAT HE WANTS! ALWAYS!
"THE FIRST TIME WE FOUGHT, I ALLOWED THAT ADDLE-BRAINED JAMESON TO CONTROL MY ROBOT--"
WHY DON'T YOU ANSWER ME, WEB-HEAD? GO AHEAD-- SAY SOMETHING!
"BUT YOU EASILY OUT-FOXED HIM--WITH A STUFFED AND DECOYED COSTUME!"*
IT'S EMPTY! HE-- HE TRICKED ME!
*FROM SPIDEY #25-- AS IF YOU'D EVER FORGET! --S.
2

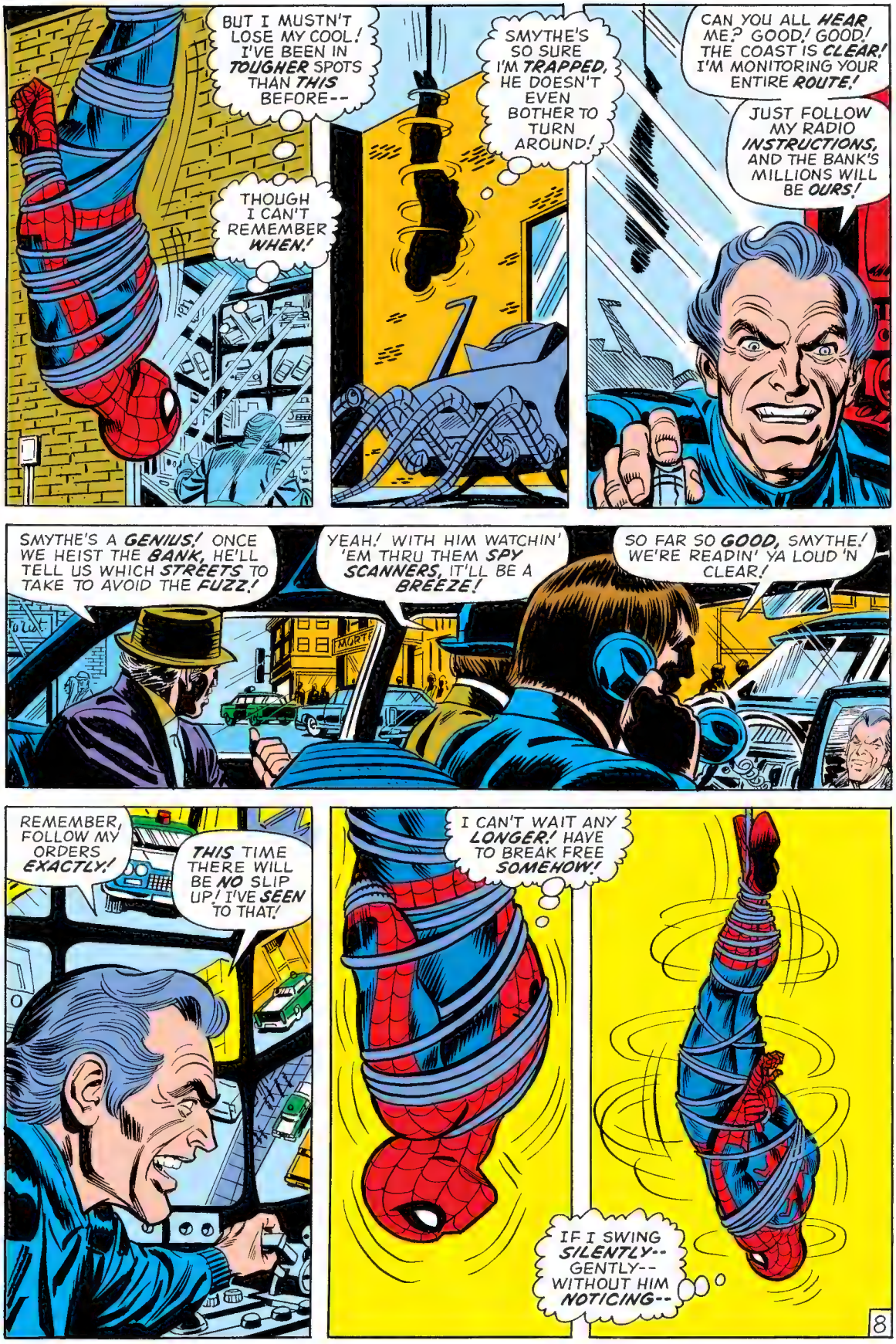

NOT REALIZING WHAT A LOSER HE WAS, I GAVE JAMESON A SECOND CHANCE--
--EMPLOYING A LARGER, MORE POWERFUL ROBOT AGAINST YOU!
THIS TIME I'LL GET YOU!
"BUT AGAIN THE ROBOT WAS OPERATED BY JAMESON VIA REMOTE CONTROL--"
ZAK!
"AND AGAIN YOU WERE TOO SMART FOR HIM-- TOO FAST FOR HIM--"
TELEPHONE
SKRUNCH
"AND YOU FINALLY HANDED US OUR SECOND DEFEAT--"
"--BY THE SIMPLE EXPEDIENT OF USING DOZENS OF LIVE SPIDERS TO SHORT-CIRCUIT MY ROBOT'S SPIDER-SENSING SYSTEM!"*
*FROM ISH #58! THOUGHT YOU HAD US, HUH? --S.

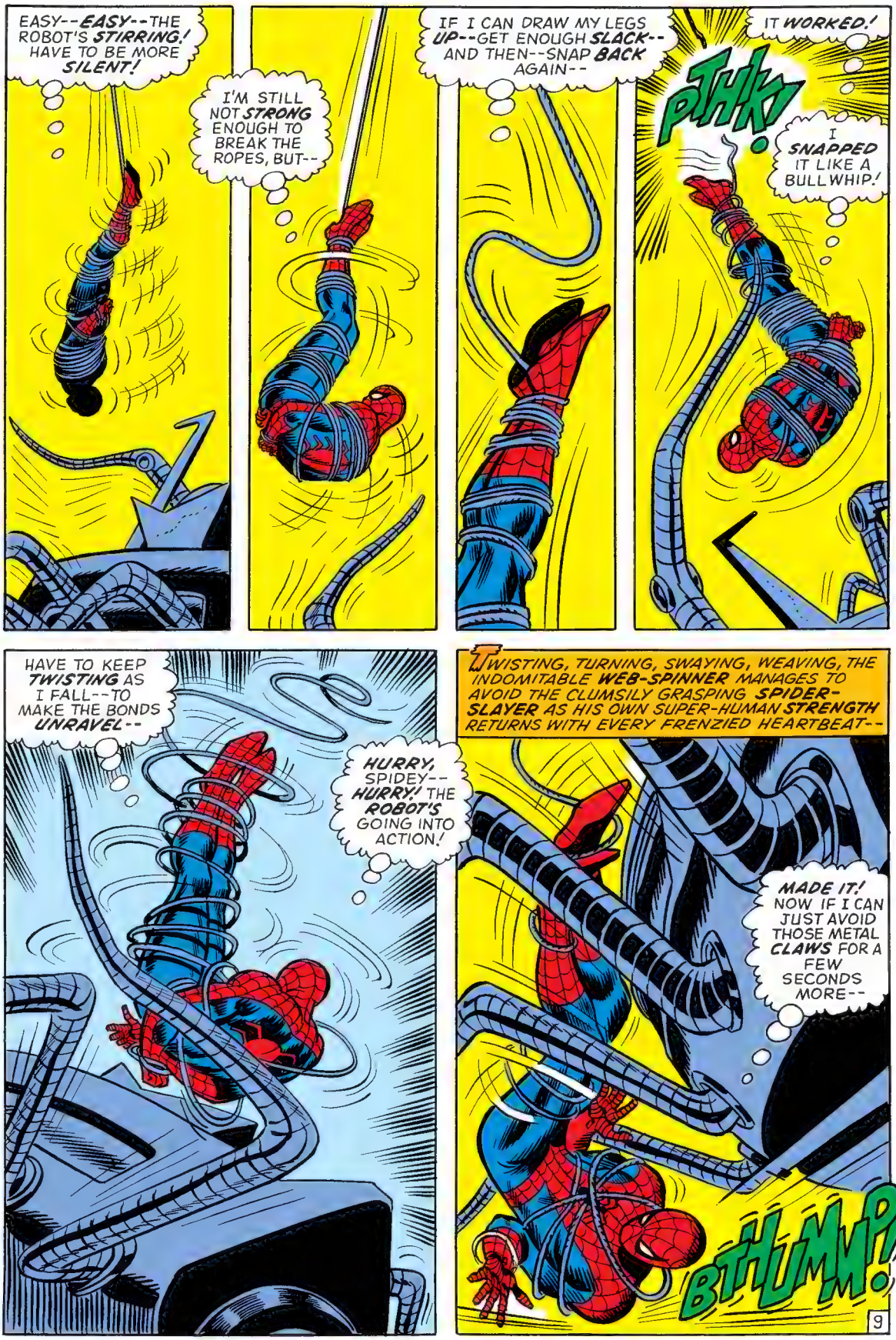

BUT NOW IT'S ALL CHANGED!
NOW I'M PERSONALLY DIRECTING THE ATTACK-- IN THE LARGEST, MOST FOOLPROOF ROBOT OF ALL!
HERE! HAVE SOME MORE VAPORS TO QUIET YOU DOWN!
AHHH, STARTING TO SQUIRM A BIT, ARE YOU?
SHHHHH
OOOSHH!
OH NO! THE FIRST FUMES WERE JUST WEARING OFF!
HAVE TO BREAK FREE-- BEFORE THE NEW SPRAY CAN AFFECT ME!
BUT--IT'S NO GOOD! I'M FEELING WEAKER ALREADY...
HE'S ENOUGH OF A SCIENTIST TO KNOW HOW--ETHYL CHLORIDE CAN SAP--MY SPIDER STRENGTH--
YOU'RE HELPLESS, WALL-CRAWLER-- DRAINED OF YOUR POWER! AND BOTH OF US KNOW IT!
I CAN DANGLE YOU BEFORE ME, LIKE A LIVING TROPHY!
HE'S BEARING ME OVER THE ROOFTOPS--BRINGING ME SOMEWHERE TO SUIT HIS PURPOSE!
BUT WHERE? WHERE IS HE TAKING ME? --AND WHY?
MY BRAIN-- MY ROBOT-- HAVE TRIUMPHED OVER YOUR WITLESS SAVAGE STRENGTH!
CLAKK!
CLAKK!
CLANNG!
CLANNG!
CLACKK!
4

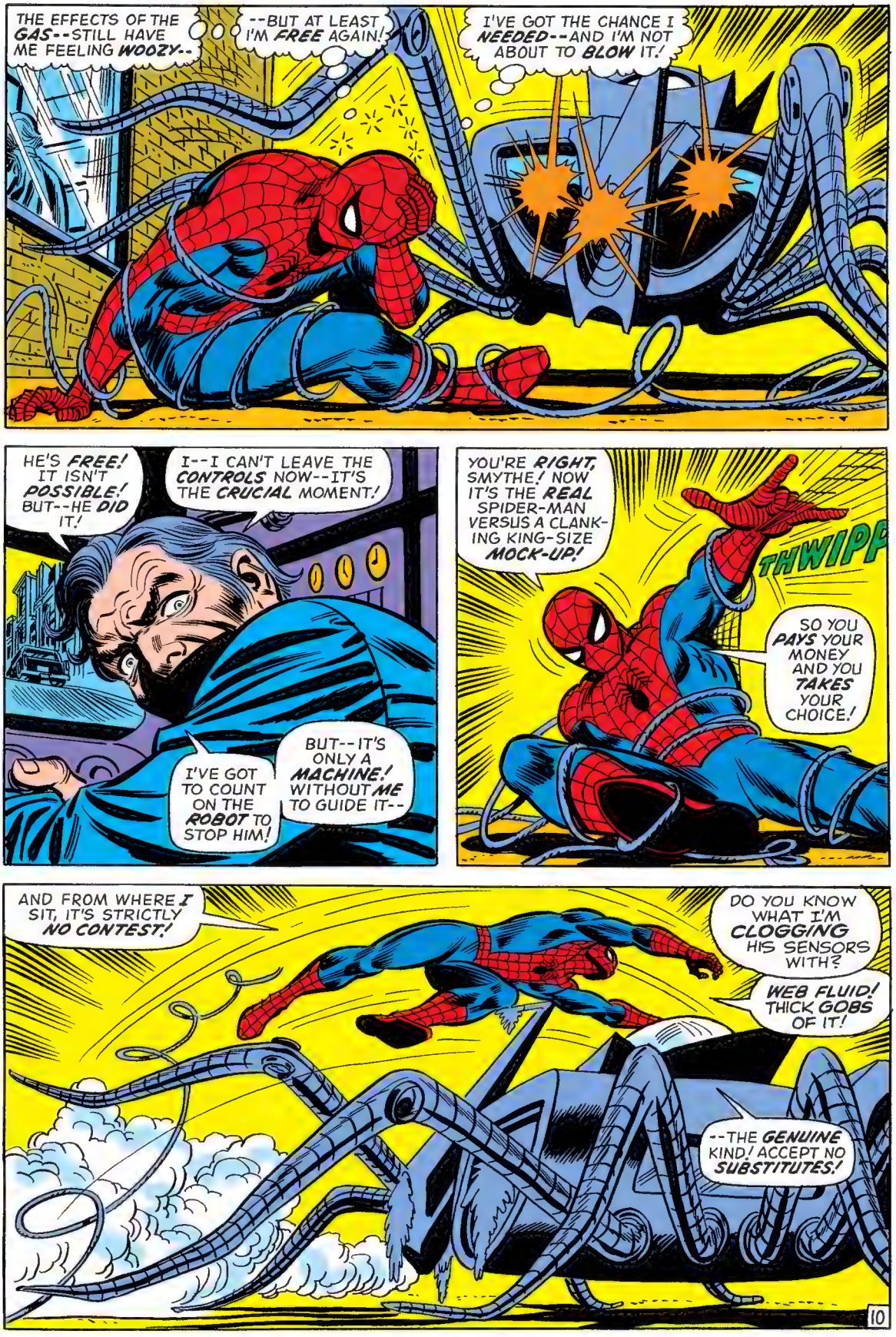
MINUTES LATER--THE TIME HAS COME FOR BOTH SPIDEY--AND US--TO FIND THE ANSWER--
HEADS UP, YOU GUYS! HERE THEY COME!
AND IT LOOKS LIKE SMYTHE REALLY MADE IT!
YOU GENTLEMEN PROMISED TO GO ALONG WITH MY PLAN IF I DEFEATED SPIDER-MAN.
WELL, AS YOU CAN SEE, I'VE KEPT MY PART OF THE BARGAIN!
HE DID IT! THE WALL-CRAWLER'S LICKED!
OKAY, SMYTHE! YOU CALL THE TUNE.
GOOD! WITH SPIDER-MAN OUT OF ACTION, WE'LL HAVE ONLY THE COPS TO WORRY ABOUT!
AND WITH MY SPY SCANNERS ON EVERY ROOF-TOP, WE'LL ALWAYS BE A JUMP AHEAD OF THEM!
THOSE TV SPY LENSES THRUOUT THE CITY! I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN ABOUT THEM!
YOU'LL HANDLE THE BANK ROBBERY, WHILE I STAY AT THE VIEW SCREEN AND TRANSMIT YOUR ORDERS! WE CAN'T MISS!
NOT EVEN SMYTHE KNOWS HOW GREAT MY STRENGTH IS! THE GAS IS STARTING TO WEAR OFF!
BUT IT'LL STILL TAKE MORE TIME--AND MY TIME MAY BE ALREADY RUNNING OUT!
AND, EVEN AS SPIDEY THINKS OF THE GORGEOUS GWENDOLYNE--
HEY, GWENDY! WE WANNA SHOW YOU SOMETHING.
S'CUSE ME, HARRY! RANDY'S CALLING.
NO! I'VE GOT TO COME THRU! I CAN'T LET IT END THIS WAY--WITHOUT SEEING GWEN!
5

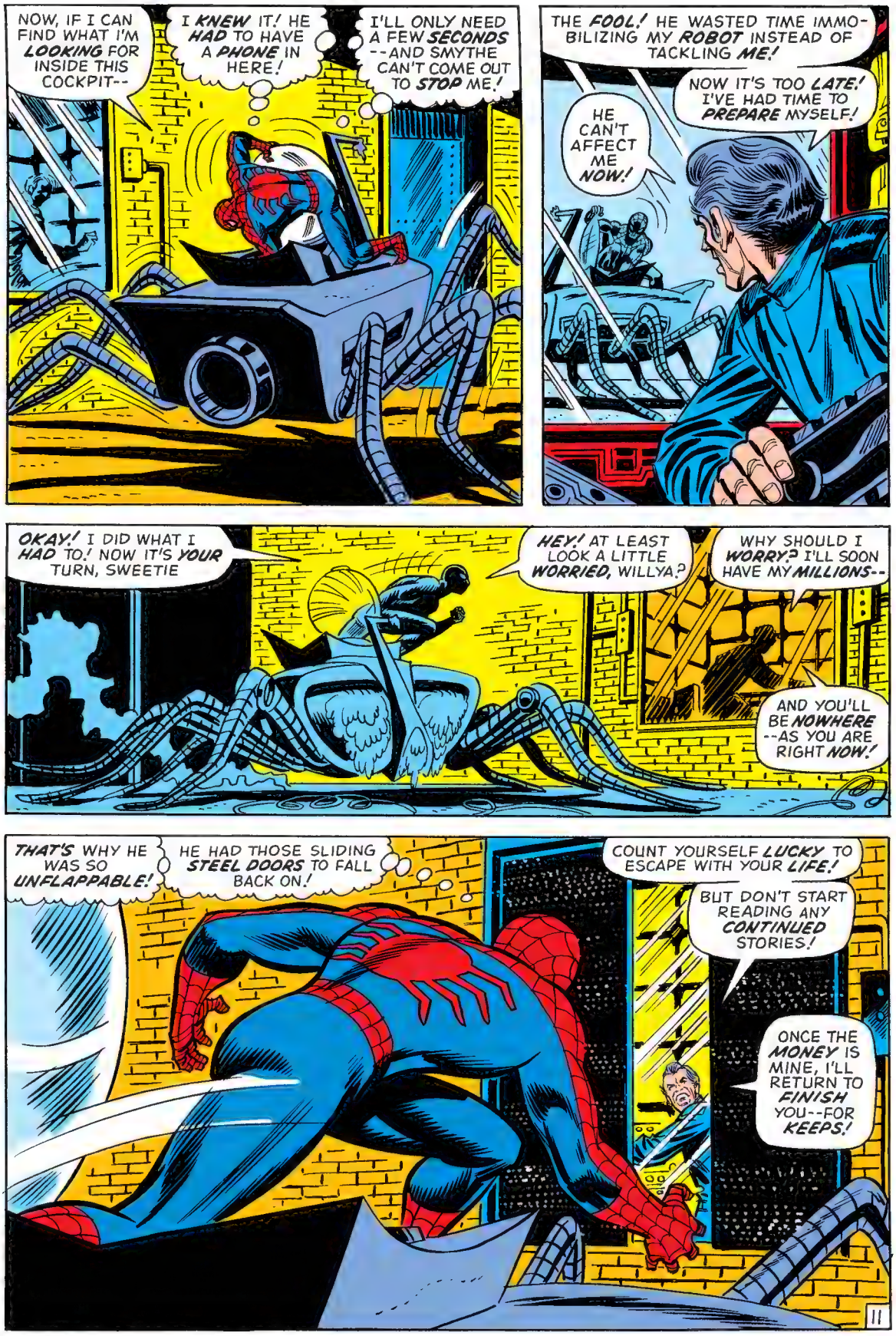

AND WHY THE GENTLE BELLOW, MEN?
TRUCK ON OVER, PRETTY LADY! YOU GOTTA DIG THIS.
HOW ABOUT THE WAY JONAH JAMESON MANAGED TO GET HIS UGLY KISSER IN THE PAPER?
AND WHO'DA THOUGHT A CREEP LIKE HIM WOULD JOIN THE PROTEST AGAINST THOSE SPY-EYES THE FUZZ STUCK ALL OVER TOWN?
NO!
NO BIG BRD
JOSH SAYS JAMESON'S SMILING--BUT I SAY SOMEONE WELDED HIS TEETH TOGETHER!
BEATS ME HOW PARKER CAN WORK FOR A NOWHERE CAT LIKE HIM.
HEY! WAS PARKER THE ONE WHO TOOK THIS PIC?
WITH JONAH IN THE FRONT LIKE THAT? NO WAY!
AND SPEAKING OF THE EVER-POPULAR, EVER-PASSIONATE PETER PARKER, DID ANY OF YOU HEROES HAPPEN TO SEE HIM LATELY?
UH UH! ANY MESSAGE IF WE DO?
SORRY, GROUP--THE MESSAGE I'VE GOT WAITING FOR HIM CAN'T BE DELIVERED BY PROXY!
MMMMM--I LIKE THE WAY THE LADY TALKS!
I THOUGHT PETE WOULD WAIT FOR ME AFTER CLASS SO WE COULD ANKLE HOME TOGETHER.
I HOPE MARY JANE DIDN'T MANAGE TO REACH HIM FIRST!
SHAME ON YOU, MISS STACY! HOW CAN SUCH A PRETTY LITTLE CREATURE FEEL SO JEALOUS?
EASY--WHEN PETE'S CONCERNED!
GWEN! CAN I SPEAK TO YOU FOR A MINUTE?
WHA--? OH, FLASH--IT'S YOU!

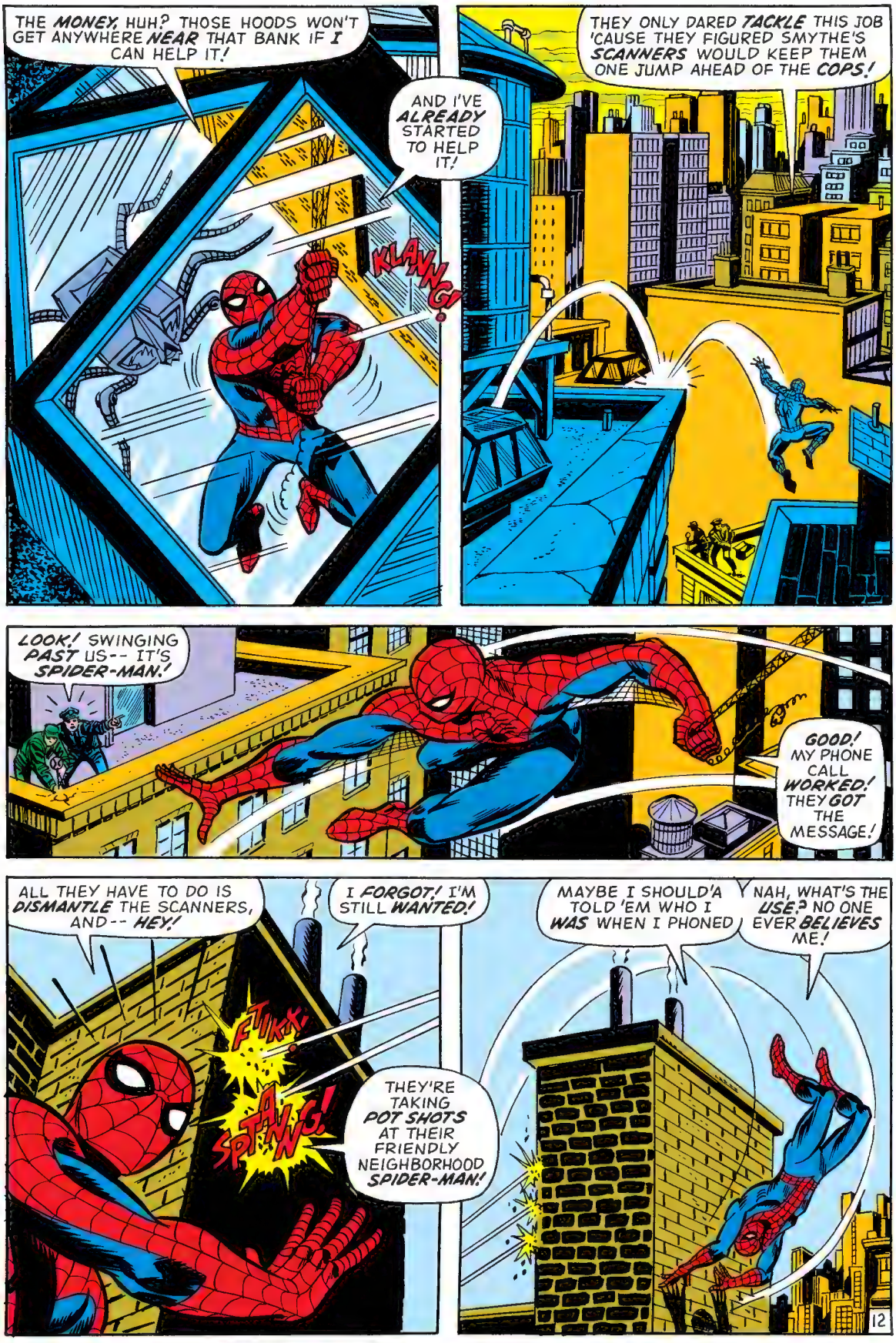

I JUST WANTED TO APOLOGIZE--FOR THE WAY I ACTED YESTERDAY--WHEN YOU AND PARKER CAME TO SEE ME*
IT'S ALL RIGHT, FLASH! YOU DON'T HAVE TO--
I DO HAVE TO! I WANT TO!
*YOU GUESSED IT: LAST ISH!--S.
AFTER ALL, GWEN--YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT YOU--
I FEEL THE SAME WAY, FLASH! WE'RE FRIENDS--I WANT US TO STAY THAT WAY.
THAT'S--NOT WHAT I MEAN! YOU'RE MORE TO ME--THAN JUST A FRIEND.
WHAT--ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
NO--DON'T ANSWER! JUST LISTEN
YOU KNOW HOW PETER AND I FEEL ABOUT EACH OTHER! IT'S FOR REAL, FLASH!
BUT, I'VE A FEELING THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE--
THERE'S SOMETHING YOU'RE NOT TELLING ME!
I CAN'T, GWEN! I WANT TO, BUT I CAN'T TELL YOU--CAN'T TELL ANYONE!
IF YOU'RE IN TROUBLE--IF THERE'S ANY WAY PETER AND I CAN HELP--
PETER AND YOU! PETER AND YOU!
WOW--IF ONLY IT WERE THAT SIMPLE!
BUT, SPEAKING OF TROUBLE, LET'S RETURN TO THE GUY WHO WROTE THE BOOK--
HE SET THE ROBOT ON AUTOMATIC--TO ATTACK ME IF I TRY TO STRUGGLE FREE!
THE HOODS HAVE LEFT! SMYTHE IS ALONE, WORKING THE SPY SCANNER CONTROLS!
AND HE MADE SURE THAT I'LL BE OUT OF ACTION!


BUT I MUSTN'T LOSE MY COOL! I'VE BEEN IN TOUGHER SPOTS THAN THIS BEFORE--
THOUGH I CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN!
SMYTHE'S SO SURE I'M TRAPPED, HE DOESN'T EVEN BOTHER TO TURN AROUND!
CAN YOU ALL HEAR ME? GOOD! GOOD! THE COAST IS CLEAR! I'M MONITORING YOUR ENTIRE ROUTE!
JUST FOLLOW MY RADIO INSTRUCTIONS, AND THE BANK'S MILLIONS WILL BE OURS!
SMYTHE'S A GENIUS! ONCE WE HEIST THE BANK, HE'LL TELL US WHICH STREETS TO TAKE TO AVOID THE FUZZ!
YEAH! WITH HIM WATCHIN' 'EM THRU THEM SPY SCANNERS, IT'LL BE A BREEZE!
SO FAR SO GOOD, SMYTHE! WE'RE READIN' YA LOUD 'N CLEAR!
REMEMBER, FOLLOW MY ORDERS EXACTLY!
THIS TIME THERE WILL BE NO SLIP UP! I'VE SEEN TO THAT!
I CAN'T WAIT ANY LONGER! HAVE TO BREAK FREE SOMEHOW!
IF I SWING SILENTLY-- GENTLY-- WITHOUT HIM NOTICING--
8


EASY--EASY--THE ROBOT'S STIRRING! HAVE TO BE MORE SILENT!
I'M STILL NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO BREAK THE ROPES, BUT--
IF I CAN DRAW MY LEGS UP--GET ENOUGH SLACK--AND THEN--SNAP BACK AGAIN--
IT WORKED!
pTHK!
I SNAPPED IT LIKE A BULLWHIP!
HAVE TO KEEP TWISTING AS I FALL--TO MAKE THE BONDS UNRAVEL--
HURRY, SPIDEY--HURRY! THE ROBOT'S GOING INTO ACTION!
TWISTING, TURNING, SWAYING, WEAVING, THE INDOMITABLE WEB-SPINNER MANAGES TO AVOID THE CLUMSILY GRASPING SPIDER-SLAYER AS HIS OWN SUPER-HUMAN STRENGTH RETURNS WITH EVERY FRENZIED HEARTBEAT--
MADE IT! NOW IF I CAN JUST AVOID THOSE METAL CLAWS FOR A FEW SECONDS MORE--
BTHUMM!


THE EFFECTS OF THE GAS--STILL HAVE ME FEELING WOOZY--
--BUT AT LEAST I'M FREE AGAIN!
I'VE GOT THE CHANCE I NEEDED--AND I'M NOT ABOUT TO BLOW IT!
HE'S FREE! IT ISN'T POSSIBLE! BUT--HE DID IT!
I--I CAN'T LEAVE THE CONTROLS NOW--IT'S THE CRUCIAL MOMENT!
I'VE GOT TO COUNT ON THE ROBOT TO STOP HIM!
BUT--IT'S ONLY A MACHINE! WITHOUT ME TO GUIDE IT--
YOU'RE RIGHT, SMYTHE! NOW IT'S THE REAL SPIDER-MAN VERSUS A CLANKING KING-SIZE MOCK-UP!
THWIPP
SO YOU PAYS YOUR MONEY AND YOU TAKES YOUR CHOICE!
AND FROM WHERE I SIT, IT'S STRICTLY NO CONTEST!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT I'M CLOGGING HIS SENSORS WITH?
WEB FLUID! THICK GOBS OF IT!
--THE GENUINE KIND! ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES!


NOW, IF I CAN FIND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR INSIDE THIS COCKPIT--
I KNEW IT! HE HAD TO HAVE A PHONE IN HERE!
I'LL ONLY NEED A FEW SECONDS --AND SMYTHE CAN'T COME OUT TO STOP ME!
THE FOOL! HE WASTED TIME IMMOBILIZING MY ROBOT INSTEAD OF TACKLING ME!
NOW IT'S TOO LATE! I'VE HAD TIME TO PREPARE MYSELF!
HE CAN'T AFFECT ME NOW!
OKAY! I DID WHAT I HAD TO! NOW IT'S YOUR TURN, SWEETIE
HEY! AT LEAST LOOK A LITTLE WORRIED, WILLYA?
WHY SHOULD I WORRY? I'LL SOON HAVE MY MILLIONS--
AND YOU'LL BE NOWHERE --AS YOU ARE RIGHT NOW!
THAT'S WHY HE WAS SO UNFLAPPABLE!
HE HAD THOSE SLIDING STEEL DOORS TO FALL BACK ON!
COUNT YOURSELF LUCKY TO ESCAPE WITH YOUR LIFE!
BUT DON'T START READING ANY CONTINUED STORIES!
ONCE THE MONEY IS MINE, I'LL RETURN TO FINISH YOU--FOR KEEPS!
11

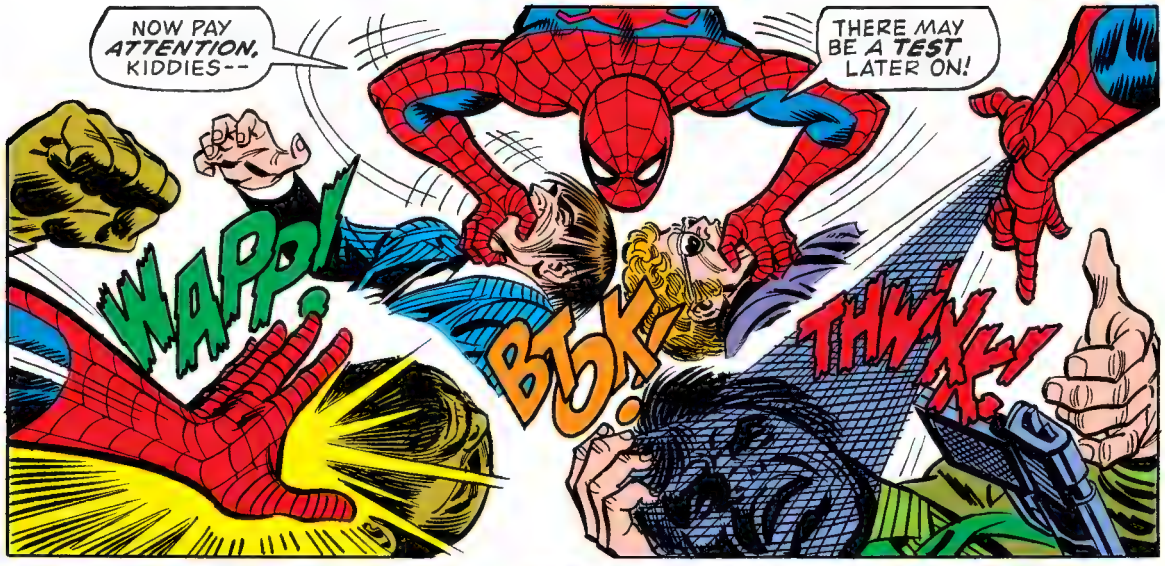

THE MONEY, HUH? THOSE HOODS WON'T GET ANYWHERE NEAR THAT BANK IF I CAN HELP IT!
AND I'VE ALREADY STARTED TO HELP IT!
KLANG!
THEY ONLY DARED TACKLE THIS JOB 'CAUSE THEY FIGURED SMYTHE'S SCANNERS WOULD KEEP THEM ONE JUMP AHEAD OF THE COPS!
LOOK! SWINGING PAST US-- IT'S SPIDER-MAN!
GOOD! MY PHONE CALL WORKED! THEY GOT THE MESSAGE!
ALL THEY HAVE TO DO IS DISMANTLE THE SCANNERS, AND-- HEY!
I FORGOT! I'M STILL WANTED!
FTIK-K-K!
SPTANG!
THEY'RE TAKING POT SHOTS AT THEIR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN!
MAYBE I SHOULD'A TOLD 'EM WHO I WAS WHEN I PHONED
NAH, WHAT'S THE USE? NO ONE EVER BELIEVES ME!
12

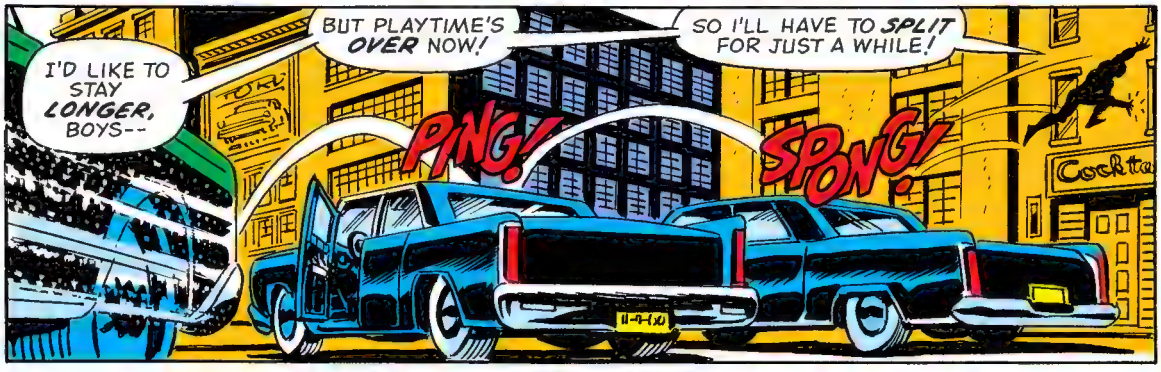
ANYWAY, ALL THAT MATTERS IS--THEY'RE PUTTING THE SCANNERS OUT OF OPERATION!
BUT I SURE WISH THEY'D LET ME JOIN THEIR GOOD-GUYS CLUB FOR A CHANGE!
MEANWHILE--
TASK FORCE "A" CHECKIN' IN!
THIS IS GROUP "B" REPORTIN'.
THINGS A-OKAY WITH TEAM "C" HERE.
SQUAD "D"! NO TROUBLE YET!
WE'RE READY TO HIT THAT BANK IN LESS'N SIX MINUTES!
WE'LL DIVVY THE LOOT 'N ALL FOUR CARS'LL TAKE OFF IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION!
LONG AS SMYTHE CAN TELL US WHERE THE FUZZ IS HEADIN', THEY'LL NEVER BE ABLE TA NAB US!
GOTTA HAND IT TO THOSE GUYS! THEY'RE NOT WASTING A MINUTE REMOVING THE SCANNERS!
SMYTHE SHOULD BE GETTING WIND OF IT ANY SECOND NOW-- AND THEN THE FUN BEGINS!
13

AND IF YOU THINK WE'RE ABOUT TO MAKE A LIAR OUT OF SPIDEY-- FORGET IT--
HEY! WHAT GIVES? THE CRUMMY MONITOR'S GOIN' HAYWIRE!
SOMETHIN'S WRONG! WE LOST THE PICTURE! WHAT'S GOIN' ON OUT THERE?
SMYTHE SHOULD'A WARNED US! THERE'S A COP CAR UP AHEAD!
WE ALMOST PLOWED RIGHT INTO IT!
SMYTHE! YOU DIRTY, SNIVELLIN' CREEP! IF YOU'RE DOUBLE CROSSIN' US--!!
DOUBLE-CROSSING YOU? HOW CAN YOU EVEN THINK--?
OH NO! THE SCREENS-- THE MONITORS-- WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THEM?
SOMETHING'S WRONG--I'M NOT GETTING THE IMAGES! I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING! MY PLAN IS USELESS WITHOUT THE SCANNER'S EYES!
JUST AS I FIGURED-- THEY'RE HEADING BACK TO SMYTHE'S!
THEY WOULDN'T DARE TACKLE THE BANK WITHOUT THE SCANNERS WORKING!
LOOK! WE WUZ RIGHT! THAT FINK DID TRY TO CROSS US!
HE EVEN LET SPIDER-MAN FREE! HE'S GOT 'IM WAITIN' THERE FOR US!
601
OTB

EASY WITH THOSE POP-GUNS, BOYS! WHAT WITH THE PRICE OF BULLETS NOWADAYS--
DON'T JUST STAND THERE, YA PUNKS! SOMEONE KNOCK 'IM OFF!
THWIPP!
IF THERE'S ONE THING THAT BUGS ME--IT'S AN ANTI-SOCIAL ATTITUDE!
DON'T YOU FELLOWS KNOW THE PERSUASIVE POWER OF LOVE?
SPTOK!
HEAVEN KNOWS I HATE TO SOUND LIKE A DEFEATIST--
BUT I SOMEHOW SUSPECT YOU'RE NOT GETTING THE MESSAGE!
KRAK! KRAK!
MORT
IF YOU CLOWNS CAN'T SHUT 'IM UP-- I WILL!
ZAWNG
THAT'S WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU CHAPS--
YOU WON'T TAKE TIME FOR A MEANINGFUL CONVER-SATION!
WOW! I'LL BET THAT SMARTS!
15

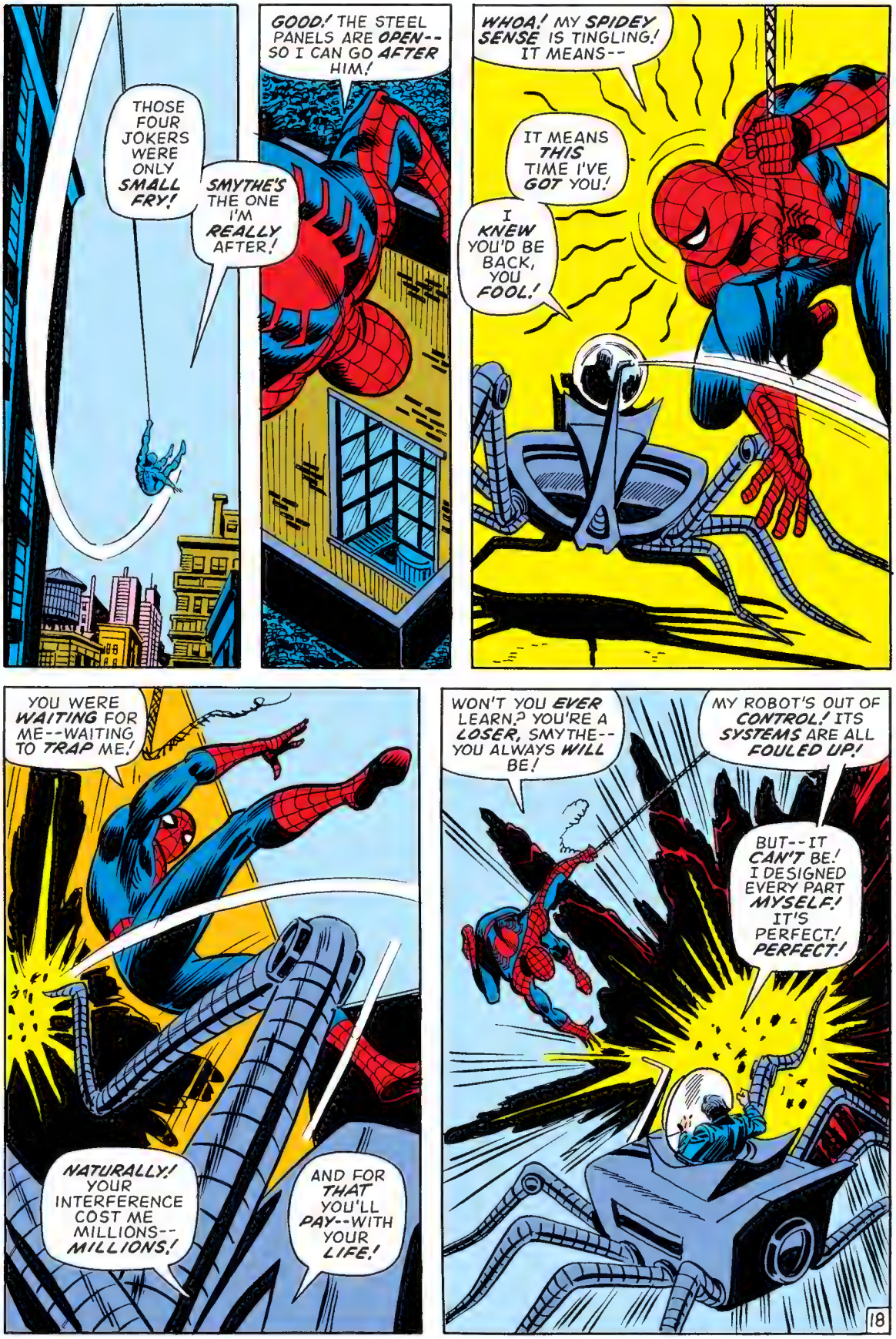
NOBODY PUTS US DOWN LIKE THAT, MISTER! NOBODY!
GOOD WORK, BUMPER! NOW THAT YA GOT 'IM, LET'S ALL LEAN ON 'IM REAL NICE 'N CAREFUL-LIKE!
WHOOP--WATCH IT, PAL! THAT'S MY FAVORITE ANKLE!
DO YOU GUYS ALWAYS PLAY THIS ROUGH?
THUMP
UNNHH! DON'T BOTHER ANSWERING THAT!
NOW THAT YOU'VE TAUGHT ME THE RULES--
WE'LL DO IT YOUR WAY!
KONK!
PTAK!
THERE'S ONE LESSON IT'S TIME YOU LEARNED--
WHEN YOU TACKLE SPIDEY, YOU'RE OUT OF THE LITTLE LEAGUE!
KROP!
16


NOW PAY ATTENTION, KIDDIES--
THERE MAY BE A TEST LATER ON!
WAPP!
BOK!
THWIP!

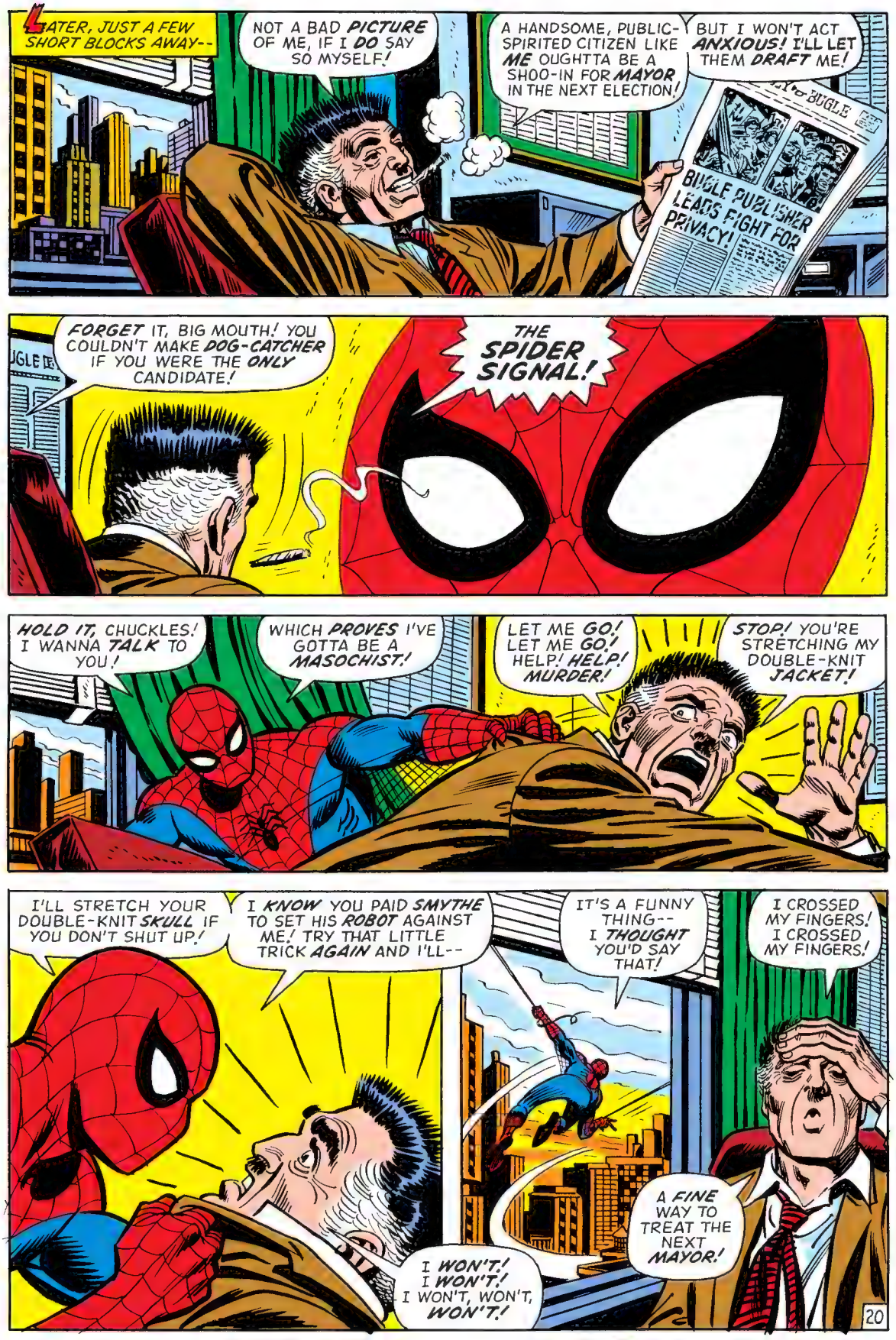

I'D LIKE TO STAY LONGER, BOYS--
BUT PLAYTIME'S OVER NOW!
SO I'LL HAVE TO SPLIT FOR JUST A WHILE!
PING!
SPONG!

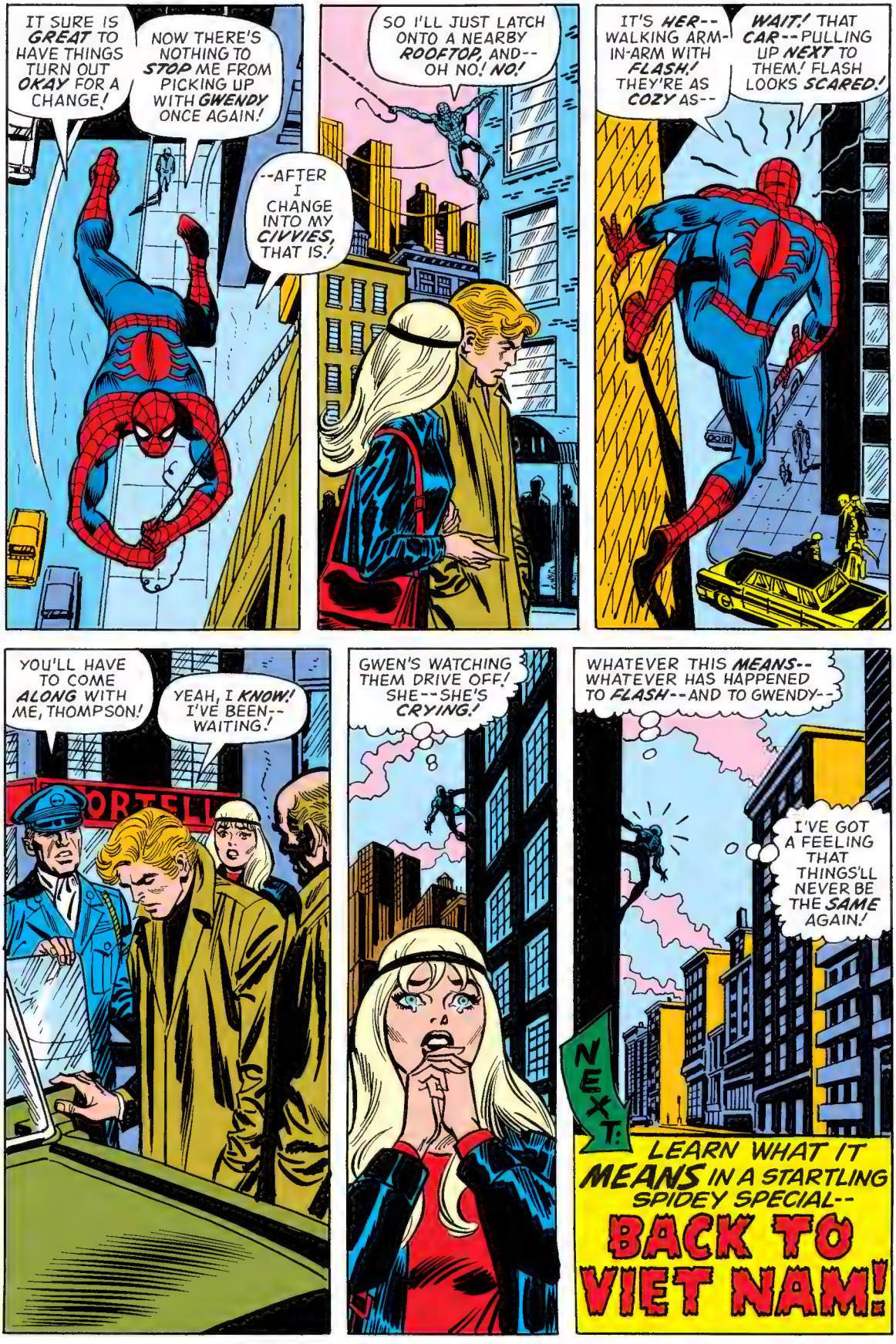
WOW! NOT A SECOND TOO SOON!
LUCKY I NOTICED THOSE POLICE CARS PULLING UP!
ZPOP!
PTAKK!

I DON'T GET IT! WHY WOULD SPIDER-MAN WEB UP HIS OWN ACCOMPLICES AND CUT OUT ON THEM LIKE THAT?
CROOKS! WHO CAN FIGGER 'EM OUT?


THOSE FOUR JOKERS WERE ONLY SMALL FRY!
SMYTHE'S THE ONE I'M REALLY AFTER!
GOOD! THE STEEL PANELS ARE OPEN--SO I CAN GO AFTER HIM!
WHOA! MY SPIDEY SENSE IS TINGLING! IT MEANS--
IT MEANS THIS TIME I'VE GOT YOU!
I KNEW YOU'D BE BACK, YOU FOOL!
YOU WERE WAITING FOR ME--WAITING TO TRAP ME!
NATURALLY! YOUR INTERFERENCE COST ME MILLIONS--MILLIONS!
AND FOR THAT YOU'LL PAY--WITH YOUR LIFE!
WON'T YOU EVER LEARN? YOU'RE A LOSER, SMYTHE--YOU ALWAYS WILL BE!
MY ROBOT'S OUT OF CONTROL! ITS SYSTEMS ARE ALL FOULED UP!
BUT--IT CAN'T BE! I DESIGNED EVERY PART MYSELF! IT'S PERFECT! PERFECT!

NO! THERE'S AN ELECTRONIC FEEDBACK! IT'S BUCKING ME-- LIKE A MACHINE GONE MAD!
DON'T BLAME THE MACHINE, SONNY
WHAT DO YOU THINK I DID WHEN I DIVED INTO THE COCKPIT BEFORE?
YOU WERE TOO BUSY TO LEAVE YOUR VIEW SCREEN, SO I JUST REARRANGED YOUR CONTROLS--
--AFTER I PHONED THE POLICE AND WARNED THEM TO REMOVE THE ROOFTOP EYE-SPIES!
ANY MORE QUESTIONS, PROFESSOR?
YES, BLAST YOU-- YES! HOW DO I GET OUT OF THIS?
KNOW SOMETHING? I WAS HOPING YOU'D ASK
THERE! A LITTLE FRESH AIR AND SUNSHINE WILL HAVE YOU FEELING LIKE A NEW MAN
AND WHILE YOU'RE WAITING FOR THE LAW, I'VE ANOTHER CALL TO MAKE!
19


LATER, JUST A FEW SHORT BLOCKS AWAY--
NOT A BAD PICTURE OF ME, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF!
A HANDSOME, PUBLIC-SPIRITED CITIZEN LIKE ME OUGHTTA BE A SHOO-IN FOR MAYOR IN THE NEXT ELECTION!
BUT I WON'T ACT ANXIOUS! I'LL LET THEM DRAFT ME!
BUGLE
BUGLE PUBLISHER LEADS FIGHT FOR PRIVACY!
FORGET IT, BIG MOUTH! YOU COULDN'T MAKE DOG-CATCHER IF YOU WERE THE ONLY CANDIDATE!
THE SPIDER SIGNAL!
HOLD IT, CHUCKLES! I WANNA TALK TO YOU!
WHICH PROVES I'VE GOTTA BE A MASOCHIST!
LET ME GO! LET ME GO! HELP! HELP! MURDER!
STOP! YOU'RE STRETCHING MY DOUBLE-KNIT JACKET!
I'LL STRETCH YOUR DOUBLE-KNIT SKULL IF YOU DON'T SHUT UP!
I KNOW YOU PAID SMYTHE TO SET HIS ROBOT AGAINST ME! TRY THAT LITTLE TRICK AGAIN AND I'LL--
IT'S A FUNNY THING-- I THOUGHT YOU'D SAY THAT!
I CROSSED MY FINGERS! I CROSSED MY FINGERS!
I WON'T! I WON'T! I WON'T, WON'T, WON'T!
A FINE WAY TO TREAT THE NEXT MAYOR!
20


IT SURE IS GREAT TO HAVE THINGS TURN OUT OKAY FOR A CHANGE!
NOW THERE'S NOTHING TO STOP ME FROM PICKING UP WITH GWENDY ONCE AGAIN!
--AFTER I CHANGE INTO MY CIVVIES, THAT IS.!
SO I'LL JUST LATCH ONTO A NEARBY ROOFTOP, AND-- OH NO! NO!
IT'S HER-- WALKING ARM-IN-ARM WITH FLASH! THEY'RE AS COZY AS--
WAIT! THAT CAR--PULLING UP NEXT TO THEM! FLASH LOOKS SCARED!
YOU'LL HAVE TO COME ALONG WITH ME, THOMPSON!
YEAH, I KNOW! I'VE BEEN-- WAITING!
GWEN'S WATCHING THEM DRIVE OFF! SHE--SHE'S CRYING!
WHATEVER THIS MEANS-- WHATEVER HAS HAPPENED TO FLASH--AND TO GWENDY--
I'VE GOT A FEELING THAT THINGS'LL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN!
NEXT:
LEARN WHAT IT MEANS IN A STARTLING SPIDEY SPECIAL--
BACK TO VIET NAM!

SPIDER-MAN
MARVEL COMICS GROUP™
20¢
108
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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SPIDEY! GWEN! FLASH! WHAT STRANGE SECRET THREATENS THEM ALL?
ROMITA
NEW! UNEXPECTED! STARTLING!
MARKED FOR MURDER!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™

VENGEANCE from VIETNAM!
LAST ISH, A STARTLED SPIDER-MAN SAW GWEN STACY, THE GIRL HE LOVES, WALKING IN THE STREET WITH FLASH THOMPSON WHEN SUDDENLY--A SPEEDING CAR RACED TO THE CURB, AND IN A MATTER OF SECONDS, BOTH SPIDEY AND GWEN SAW THE GRIM-LOOKING VET SHOVED INSIDE, AND THEN THE CAR SPED OFF! AND NOW, HANG IN THERE, HERO, 'CAUSE HERE WE GO--!
SOMETHING'S WRONG! I'VE GOT TO FOLLOW --BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
THE CAR HAS OFFICIAL LICENSE PLATES, BUT --OH OH! HOLD IT!
THAT TRUCK-- IT CUT THEM OFF --ON PURPOSE!
THROK
LOOK OUT!
SKREEEEEE
KEEP YOUR CITY CLEAN
STAN LEE, AUTHOR
JOHN ROMITA, ILLUSTRATOR
ARTIE SIMEK, LETTERER

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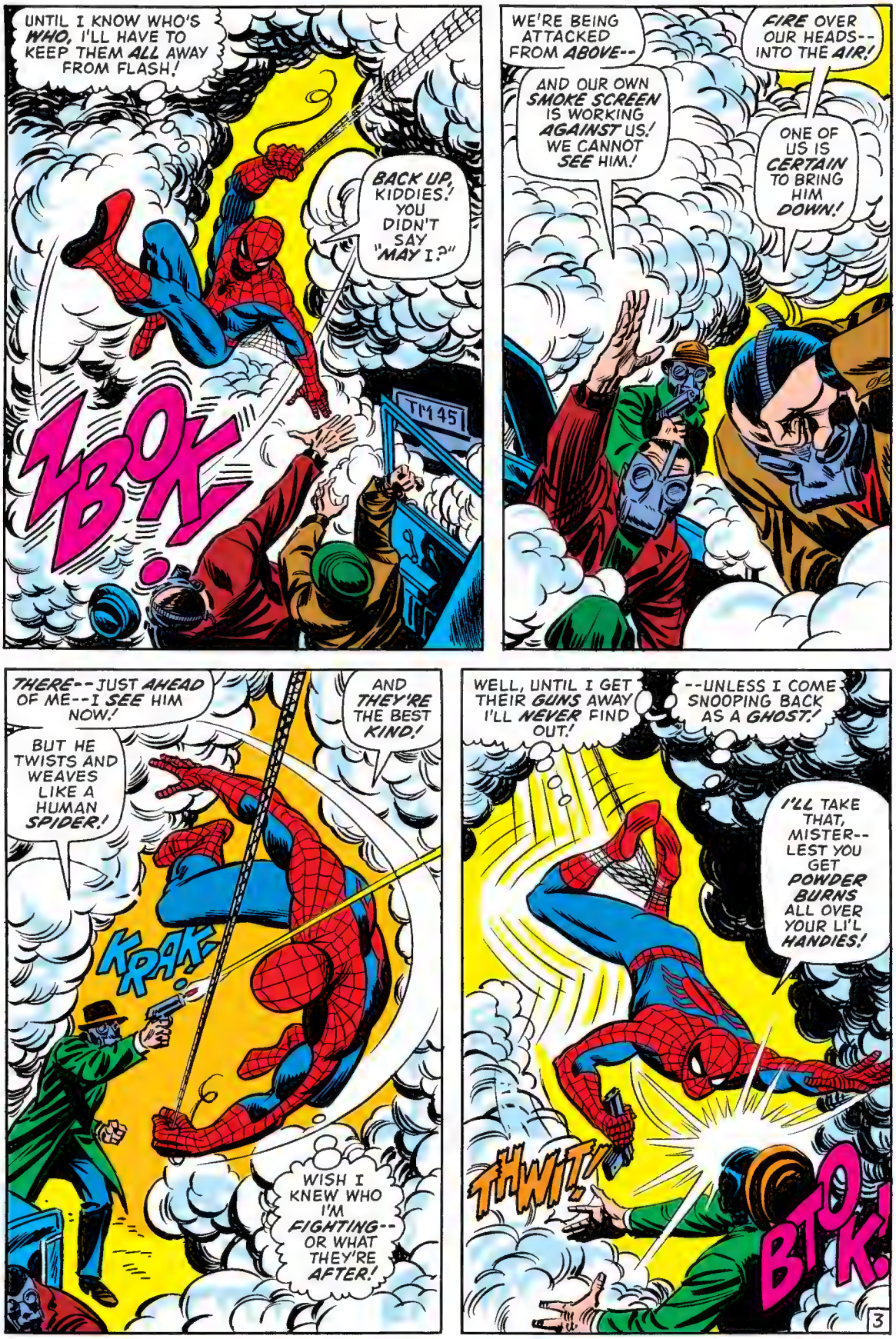
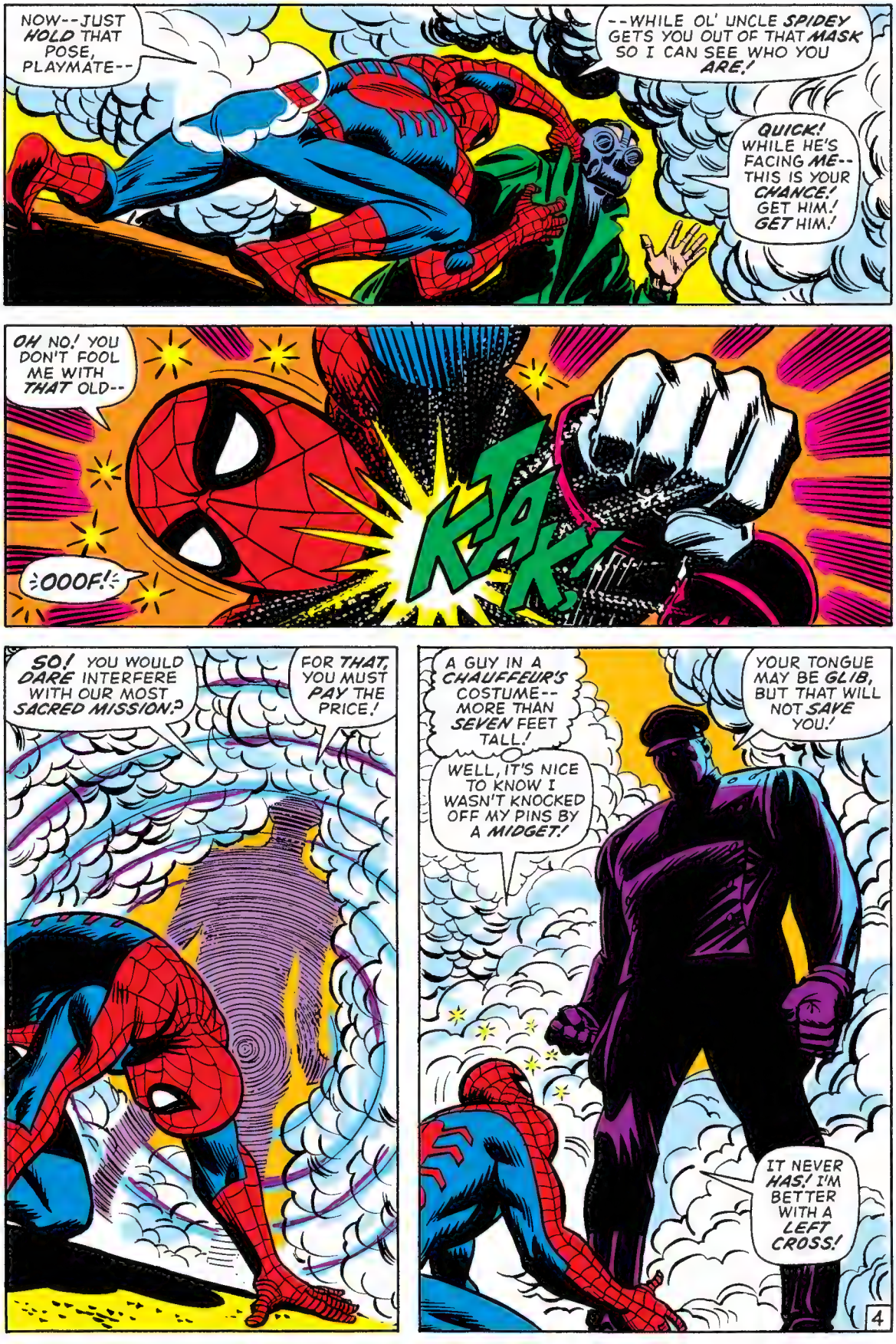
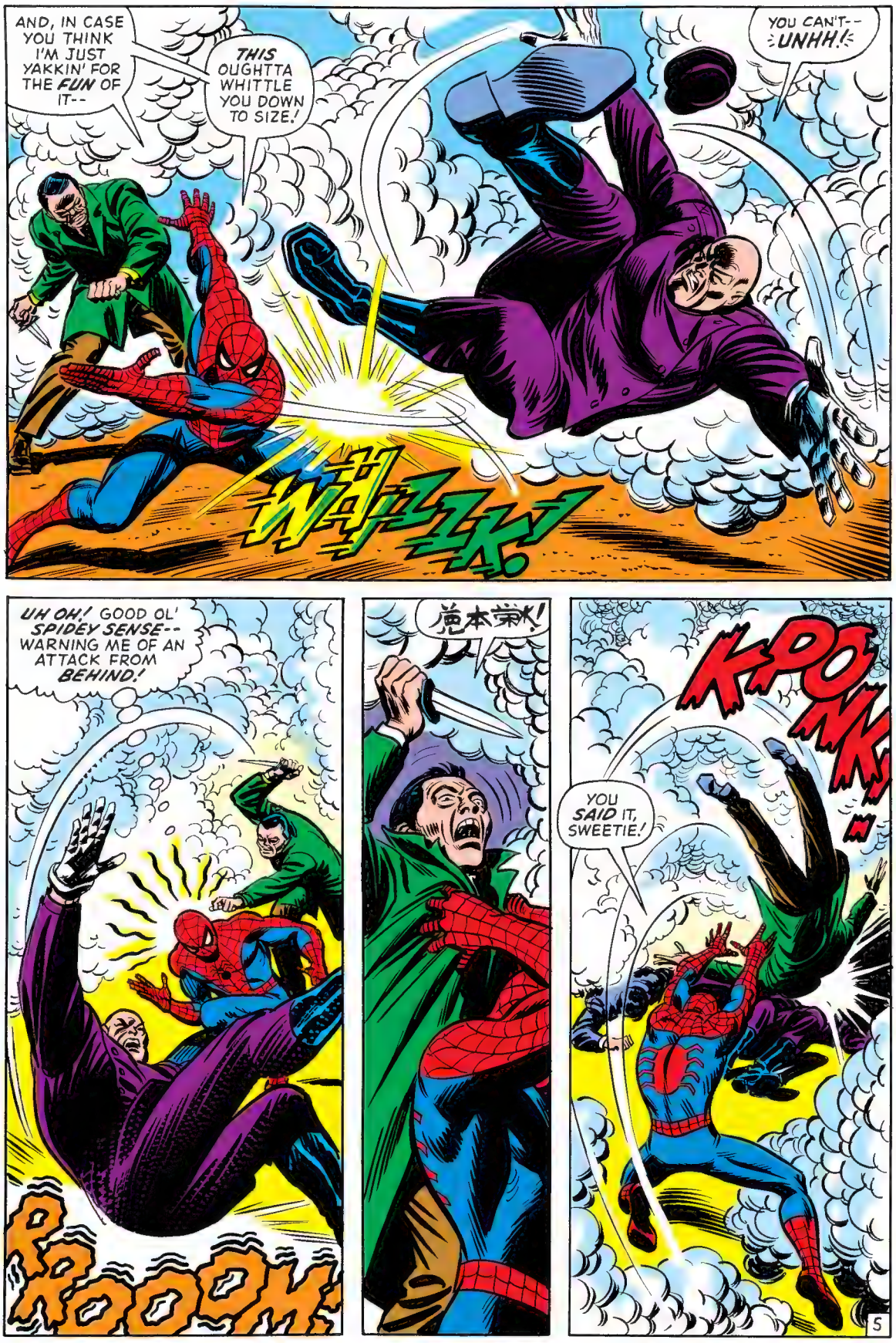
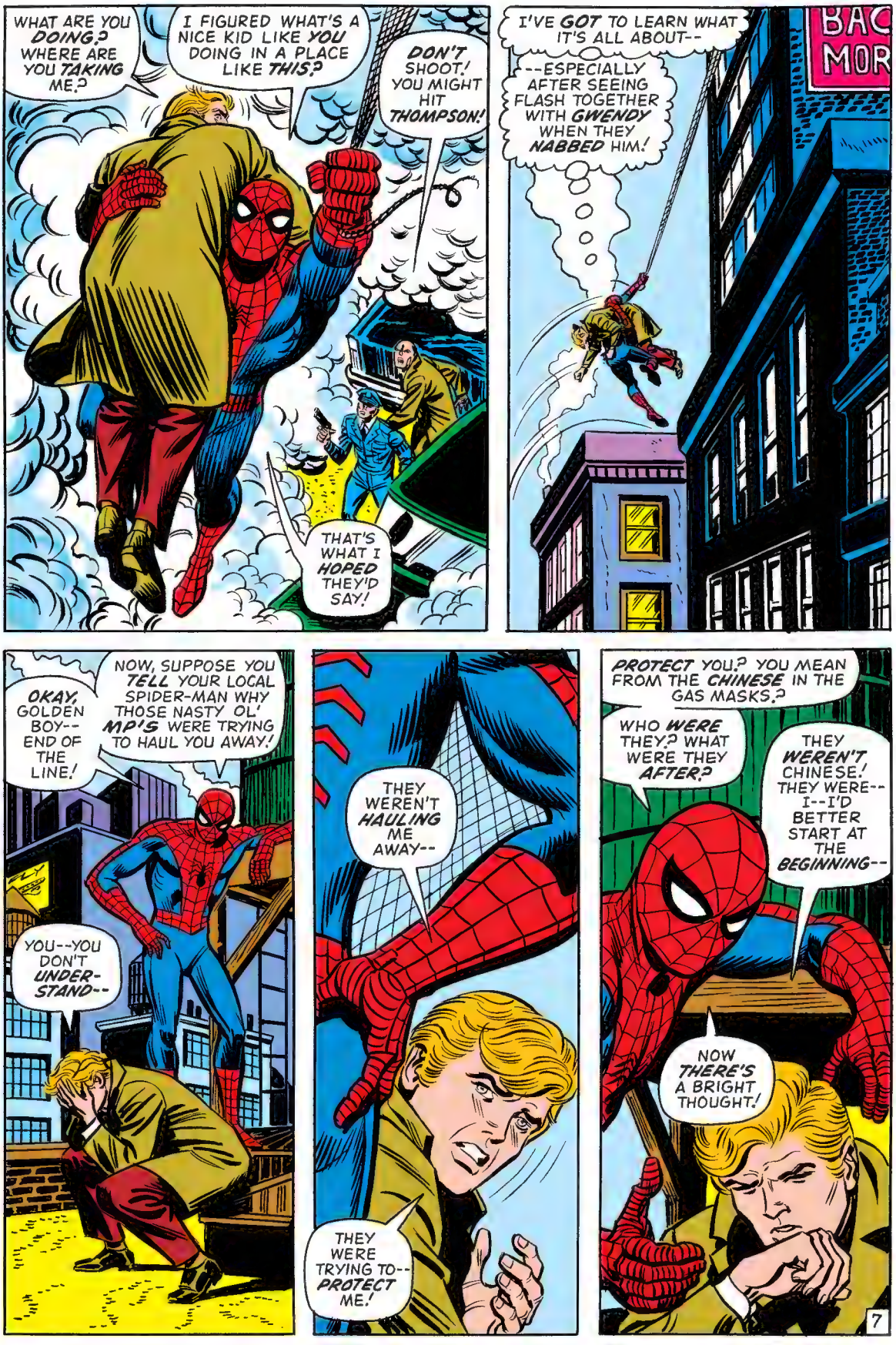
WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S WRONG?
THE GUY IN THE TRUCK--HE'S LOBBIN' SOME KINDA PELLETS AT US!
THEY LOOK LIKE SMOKE--OR MAYBE GAS!
HEY--LOOK! BEHIND US--!
IT'S A TRAP!
WE CAN'T BACK UP--AND WE CAN'T GO FORWARD!
QUICK--SHUT THE WINDOWS! TRY TO KEEP THE FUMES OUT!
THUNK!
FTANG!
BTUNNG!
I'VE--NEVER BEEN IN A SPOT LIKE THIS BEFORE!
I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING--BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT!
DON'T EVEN KNOW WHICH ARE THE BAD GUYS!
THE FUMES ARE TAKING EFFECT--FORCING THEM OUT OF THE CAR!
WE MUST HURRY! EVERY MOMENT COUNTS!
LOOK! IN THE AIR--ABOVE US! A FIGURE SWOOPING DOWN!
2


UNTIL I KNOW WHO'S WHO, I'LL HAVE TO KEEP THEM ALL AWAY FROM FLASH!
BACK UP, KIDDIES! YOU DIDN'T SAY "MAY I?"
ZBOK!
TM 45
WE'RE BEING ATTACKED FROM ABOVE--
AND OUR OWN SMOKE SCREEN IS WORKING AGAINST US! WE CANNOT SEE HIM!
FIRE OVER OUR HEADS-- INTO THE AIR!
ONE OF US IS CERTAIN TO BRING HIM DOWN!
THERE--JUST AHEAD OF ME--I SEE HIM NOW!
BUT HE TWISTS AND WEAVES LIKE A HUMAN SPIDER!
AND THEY'RE THE BEST KIND!
KRAK!
WISH I KNEW WHO I'M FIGHTING-- OR WHAT THEY'RE AFTER!
WELL, UNTIL I GET THEIR GUNS AWAY I'LL NEVER FIND OUT!
--UNLESS I COME SNOOPING BACK AS A GHOST!
I'LL TAKE THAT, MISTER-- LEST YOU GET POWDER BURNS ALL OVER YOUR LI'L HANDIES!
THWIT!
BTOK!
3

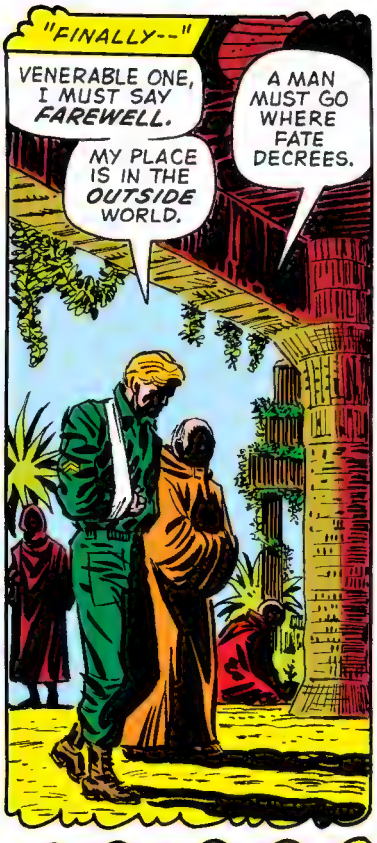

NOW--JUST HOLD THAT POSE, PLAYMATE--
--WHILE OL' UNCLE SPIDEY GETS YOU OUT OF THAT MASK SO I CAN SEE WHO YOU ARE!
QUICK! WHILE HE'S FACING ME-- THIS IS YOUR CHANCE! GET HIM! GET HIM!
OH NO! YOU DON'T FOOL ME WITH THAT OLD--
KAK
OOOF!
SO! YOU WOULD DARE INTERFERE WITH OUR MOST SACRED MISSION?
FOR THAT, YOU MUST PAY THE PRICE!
A GUY IN A CHAUFFEUR'S COSTUME-- MORE THAN SEVEN FEET TALL!
WELL, IT'S NICE TO KNOW I WASN'T KNOCKED OFF MY PINS BY A MIDGET!
YOUR TONGUE MAY BE GLIB, BUT THAT WILL NOT SAVE YOU!
IT NEVER HAS! I'M BETTER WITH A LEFT CROSS!
4


AND, IN CASE YOU THINK I'M JUST YAKKIN' FOR THE FUN OF IT--
THIS OUGHTTA WHITTLE YOU DOWN TO SIZE!
YOU CAN'T-- UNHH!
WHAK!
UH OH! GOOD OL' SPIDEY SENSE-- WARNING ME OF AN ATTACK FROM BEHIND!
ROOOK!
嵐本栄秋!
KPO NK!!
YOU SAID IT, SWEETIE!
5

THEY ALL LOOKED LIKE REFUGEES FROM FU MANCHU!
WHY WOULD A BAND OF ORIENTALS BE ATTACKING THE CAR THAT FLASH IS IN?
FLASH! I WONDER IF HE'S OKAY?
HEY, THOMPSON! YOU STILL IN THERE? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
THWIPP!
WH-WHO'S THAT? WHO ARE YOU?
RELAX, FELLA-- EVERYTHING'S COOL!
IT'S JUST YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN!
I WAS JUST SWINGING BY, AND FIGURED I'D JOIN THE PARTY!
MAN! AS MANY ENEMIES AS YOU SEEM TO HAVE-- YOU MUST WORK OVERTIME AT IT!
SPIDER-MAN! I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR GAME IS, BUT YOU'RE NOT GETTING THOMPSON!
DON'T! IT'S OKAY! I KNOW HIM!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT MAKES HIM SO POPULAR, BUT SINCE HE'S UP FOR GRABS--
AND SINCE I KNEW HIM BEFORE YOU DID--
THIS'LL GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO RAP ABOUT WHEN YOU'RE BACK AT THE PX!
ZOP!
6


WHAT ARE YOU DOING,? WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME,?
I FIGURED WHAT'S A NICE KID LIKE YOU DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS,?
DON'T SHOOT! YOU MIGHT HIT THOMPSON!
THAT'S WHAT I HOPED THEY'D SAY!
I'VE GOT TO LEARN WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT--
--ESPECIALLY AFTER SEEING FLASH TOGETHER WITH GWENDY WHEN THEY NABBED HIM!
BAC
MOR
OKAY, GOLDEN BOY-- END OF THE LINE!
NOW, SUPPOSE YOU TELL YOUR LOCAL SPIDER-MAN WHY THOSE NASTY OL' MP'S WERE TRYING TO HAUL YOU AWAY!
YOU--YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND--
THEY WEREN'T HAULING ME AWAY--
THEY WERE TRYING TO-- PROTECT ME!
PROTECT YOU,? YOU MEAN FROM THE CHINESE IN THE GAS MASKS,?
WHO WERE THEY,? WHAT WERE THEY AFTER,?
THEY WEREN'T CHINESE, THEY WERE-- I--I'D BETTER START AT THE BEGINNING--
NOW THERE'S A BRIGHT THOUGHT!
7

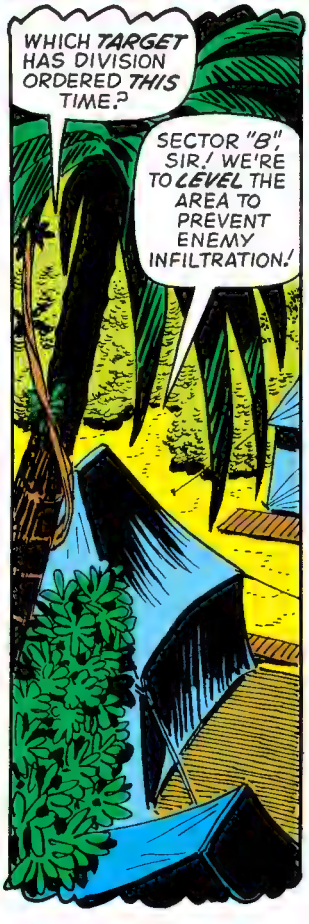
IT STARTED SOME MONTHS AGO--BACK IN VIET NAM--
I HAD BEEN WOUNDED--SEPARATED FROM MY PLATOON!
I WAS WEAK--DELIRIOUS--STUMBLING BLINDLY THRU THE CHOKING UNDERBRUSH, UNTIL--
IN THAT CLEARING--UP AHEAD--SOME KIND OF ANCIENT TEMPLE--
I'VE--GOT TO MAKE IT --SOMEHOW! I'VE GOT TO!
"THE NEXT THING I REMEMBER WAS WAKING UP TO THE SIGHT OF THE KINDEST, THE GENTLEST FACES I'D EVER SEEN--"
YOU WILL BE WELL, MY SON. HERE YOU SHALL REST--AND KNOW PEACE.
BUT WHERE--WHERE AM I?
WE HAVE BROUGHT YOU TO THE SACRED HIDDEN TEMPLE.
"THE SACRED HIDDEN TEMPLE! ITS EXISTENCE WAS NOT EVEN HINTED AT ON THE MILITARY MAPS! FOR CENTURIES IT HAD STOOD THERE WHILE THE RAVAGES OF WAR HAD PASSED IT BY!"
"NESTLED IN THE WILDEST, MOST UNCHARTED BORDER REGION, NOT EVEN THE NATIVES MENTIONED ITS EXISTENCE!"
"THEN, AS THE DAYS SPED BY AND I REGAINED MY STRENGTH--"
I'M A STRANGER--FOR ALL YOU KNOW, AN ENEMY--
YET, YOU'VE TAKEN ME IN --SAVED MY LIFE!
IT IS WRITTEN--TO SAVE ONE LIFE IS TO SAVE THE WORLD.
IN THIS PLACE, MY SON, NO MAN IS AN ENEMY.
ARE WE ALL NOT BROTHERS BENEATH THE EYES OF HEAVEN?
I'VE NEVER KNOWN--SUCH HOLINESS!

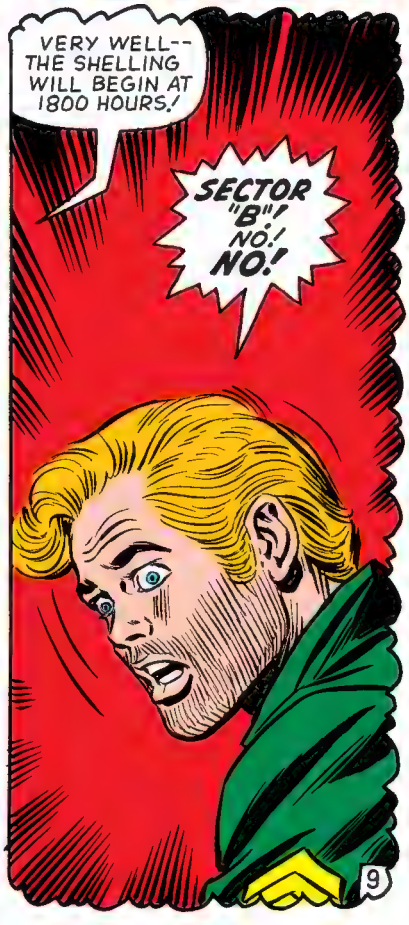

"FINALLY--"
VENERABLE ONE, I MUST SAY FAREWELL.
MY PLACE IS IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD.
A MAN MUST GO WHERE FATE DECREES.

I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU --NEVER FORGET-- WHAT YOU'VE DONE FOR ME!
THOUGH WE SHALL NOT MEET AGAIN, MY HEART WILL HOLD YOU EVER.

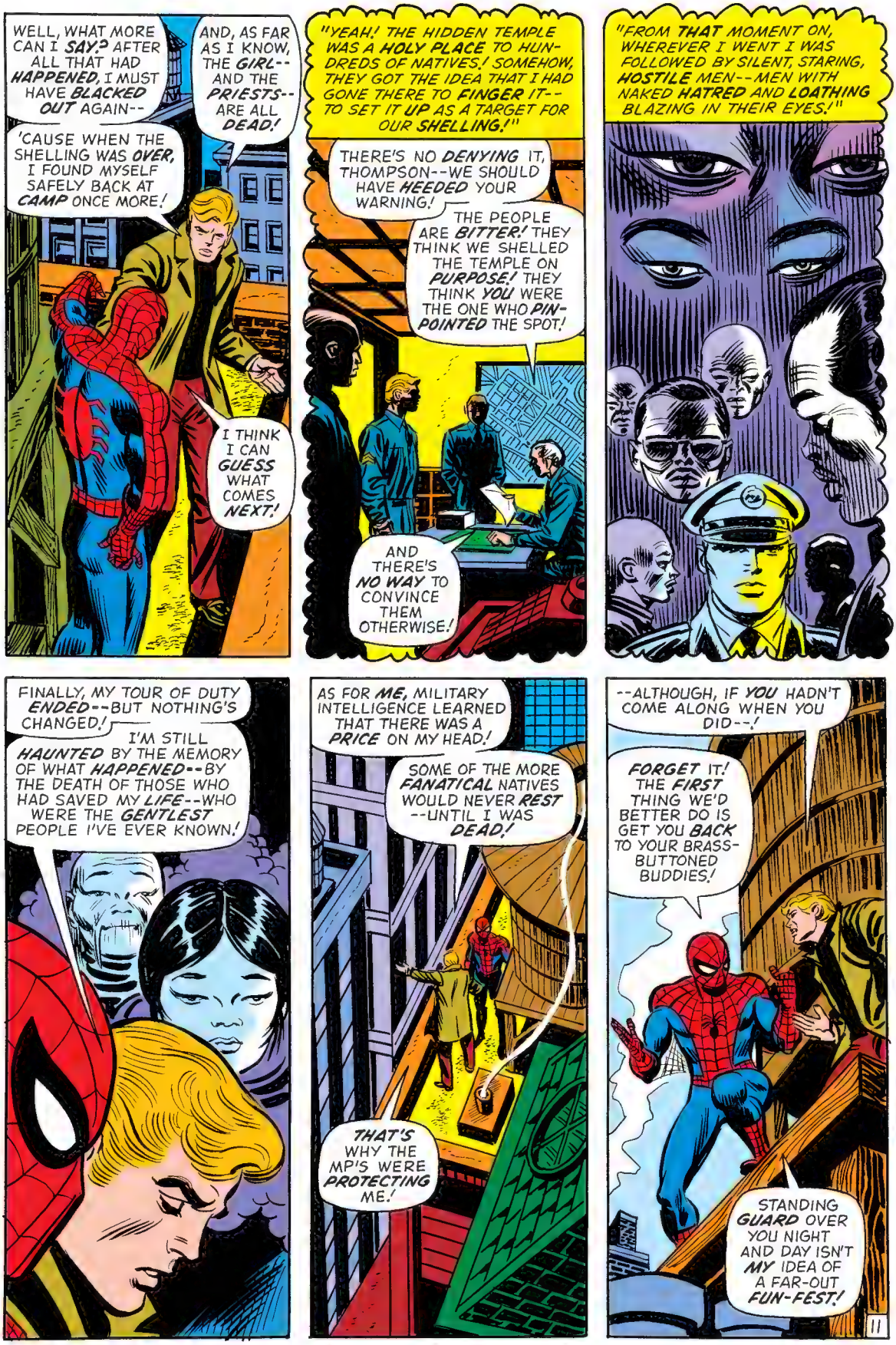
"AND SO I LEFT THAT HIDDEN SHANGRI-LA--THAT TINY OASIS OF PEACE IN A WORLD OF ENDLESS WAR!"

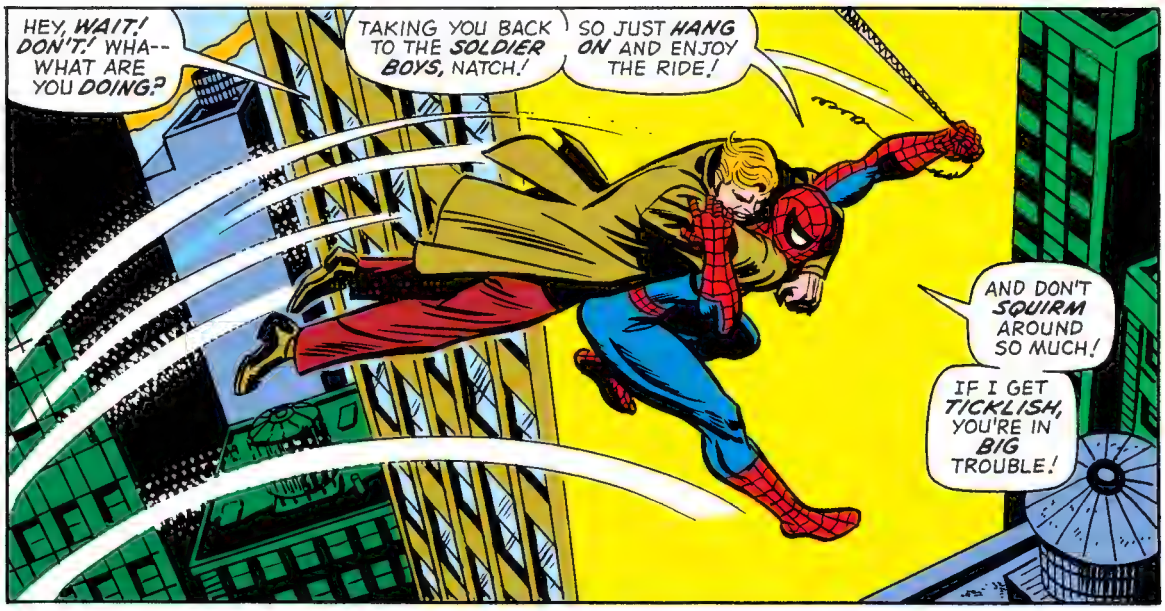
"I CAN'T REMEMBER HOW MANY HOURS--HOW MANY MILES--BUT FINALLY I REACHED MY BASE--"
REPORT TO THE INFIRMARY, SOLDIER! THE MEDICS WILL CHECK YOU OUT!
WE'RE READY TO BEGIN SHELLING, COLONEL.

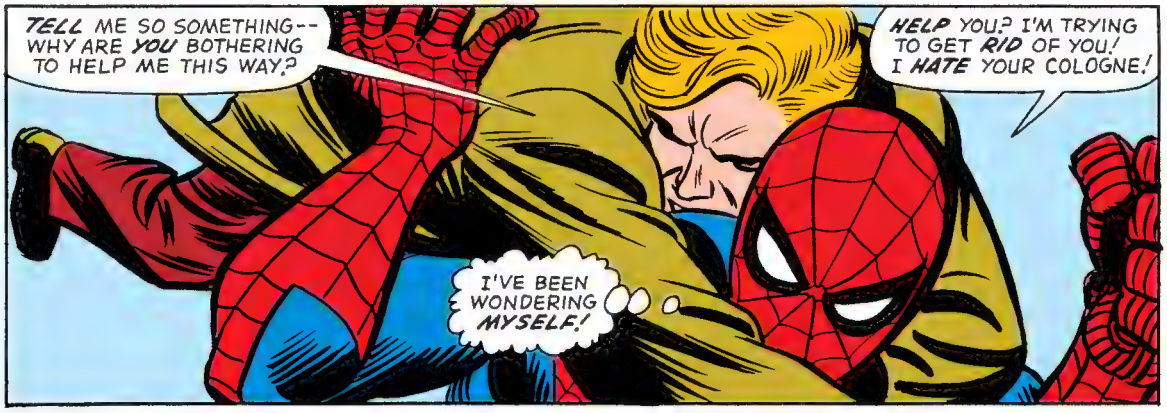

WHICH TARGET HAS DIVISION ORDERED THIS TIME?
SECTOR "B", SIR! WE'RE TO LEVEL THE AREA TO PREVENT ENEMY INFILTRATION!

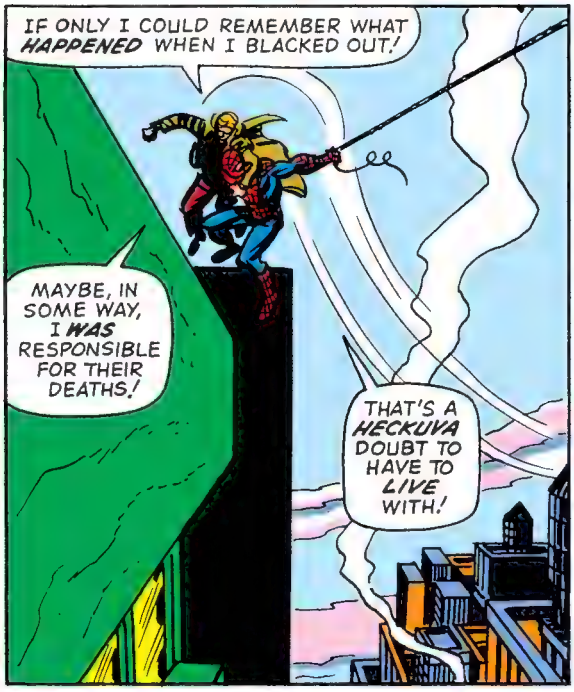

VERY WELL-- THE SHELLING WILL BEGIN AT 1800 HOURS!
SECTOR "B"! NO! NO!

I TRIED TO CONVINCE THEM THAT THE TEMPLE WAS HIDDEN IN SECTOR "B"--BUT IT WAS NO USE!
THEY SAID I'D BEEN DELIRIOUS--THEY'D CHECKED THE MAPS--THERE WAS NO TEMPLE! THEY WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME!
"SICK WITH FEAR AND WORRY, I DID THE ONLY THING I COULD--I RACED BACK, DESPERATELY--HOPING TO FIND IT IN TIME! THEN, MINUTES BEFORE H-HOUR--"
IT'S THERE! THANK GOD--I FOUND IT!
LISTEN! THERE'S NOT A SECOND TO LOSE! YOU'VE GOT TO LEAVE--ALL OF YOU!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE! I'VE GOTTA GET THRU TO YOU! YOU'LL ALL BE KILLED!
EVERY MAN MUST DIE, MY SON.
BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO! THERE'S STILL TIME! ONCE THE SHELLING STARTS, IT'LL BE TOO LATE!
WE HAVE HARMED NO ONE. YOU ARE OUR FRIEND. SURELY THOSE WITH WHOM YOU SERVE WILL DO US NO HARM.
NO! NO! YOU'RE WRONG! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN!
"BUT IT WAS HOPELESS! I COULDN'T BUDGE THEM! THE TEMPLE WAS THEIR LIFE! THEY WOULDN'T LEAVE! AND THEN--IT BEGAN!"
BLAM
10


WELL, WHAT MORE CAN I SAY? AFTER ALL THAT HAD HAPPENED, I MUST HAVE BLACKED OUT AGAIN--
'CAUSE WHEN THE SHELLING WAS OVER, I FOUND MYSELF SAFELY BACK AT CAMP ONCE MORE!
AND, AS FAR AS I KNOW, THE GIRL-- AND THE PRIESTS-- ARE ALL DEAD!
I THINK I CAN GUESS WHAT COMES NEXT!
"YEAH! THE HIDDEN TEMPLE WAS A HOLY PLACE TO HUNDREDS OF NATIVES! SOMEHOW, THEY GOT THE IDEA THAT I HAD GONE THERE TO FINGER IT-- TO SET IT UP AS A TARGET FOR OUR SHELLING!"
THERE'S NO DENYING IT, THOMPSON--WE SHOULD HAVE HEEDED YOUR WARNING!
THE PEOPLE ARE BITTER! THEY THINK WE SHELLED THE TEMPLE ON PURPOSE! THEY THINK YOU WERE THE ONE WHO PINPOINTED THE SPOT!
AND THERE'S NO WAY TO CONVINCE THEM OTHERWISE!
"FROM THAT MOMENT ON, WHEREVER I WENT I WAS FOLLOWED BY SILENT, STARING, HOSTILE MEN--MEN WITH NAKED HATRED AND LOATHING BLAZING IN THEIR EYES!"
FINALLY, MY TOUR OF DUTY ENDED--BUT NOTHING'S CHANGED!
I'M STILL HAUNTED BY THE MEMORY OF WHAT HAPPENED--BY THE DEATH OF THOSE WHO HAD SAVED MY LIFE--WHO WERE THE GENTLEST PEOPLE I'VE EVER KNOWN!
AS FOR ME, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE LEARNED THAT THERE WAS A PRICE ON MY HEAD!
SOME OF THE MORE FANATICAL NATIVES WOULD NEVER REST --UNTIL I WAS DEAD!
THAT'S WHY THE MP'S WERE PROTECTING ME!
--ALTHOUGH, IF YOU HADN'T COME ALONG WHEN YOU DID--!
FORGET IT! THE FIRST THING WE'D BETTER DO IS GET YOU BACK TO YOUR BRASS-BUTTONED BUDDIES!
STANDING GUARD OVER YOU NIGHT AND DAY ISN'T MY IDEA OF A FAR-OUT FUN-FEST!
11

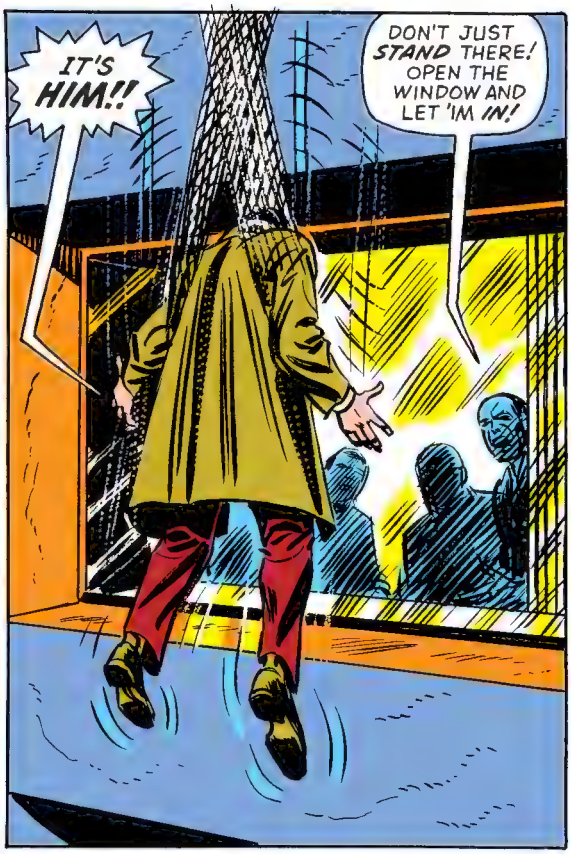

HEY, WAIT! DON'T! WHA-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
TAKING YOU BACK TO THE SOLDIER BOYS, NATCH!
SO JUST HANG ON AND ENJOY THE RIDE!
AND DON'T SQUIRM AROUND SO MUCH!
IF I GET TICKLISH, YOU'RE IN BIG TROUBLE!


TELL ME SO SOMETHING-- WHY ARE YOU BOTHERING TO HELP ME THIS WAY?
HELP YOU? I'M TRYING TO GET RID OF YOU! I HATE YOUR COLOGNE!
I'VE BEEN WONDERING MYSELF!


IF ONLY I COULD REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED WHEN I BLACKED OUT!
MAYBE, IN SOME WAY, I WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR DEATHS!
THAT'S A HECKUVA DOUBT TO HAVE TO LIVE WITH!

I'VE GOT A STRANGE FEELING-- THAT THERE'S SOMETHING MORE BEHIND ALL THIS--
THERE'S SOMETHING I DON'T KNOW--SOMETHING I'VE GOT TO FIND OUT!
WELL, LOTS'A LUCK, MISTER!
BUT WHILE YOU'RE COGITATING, HERE'S WHAT WE'LL DO--

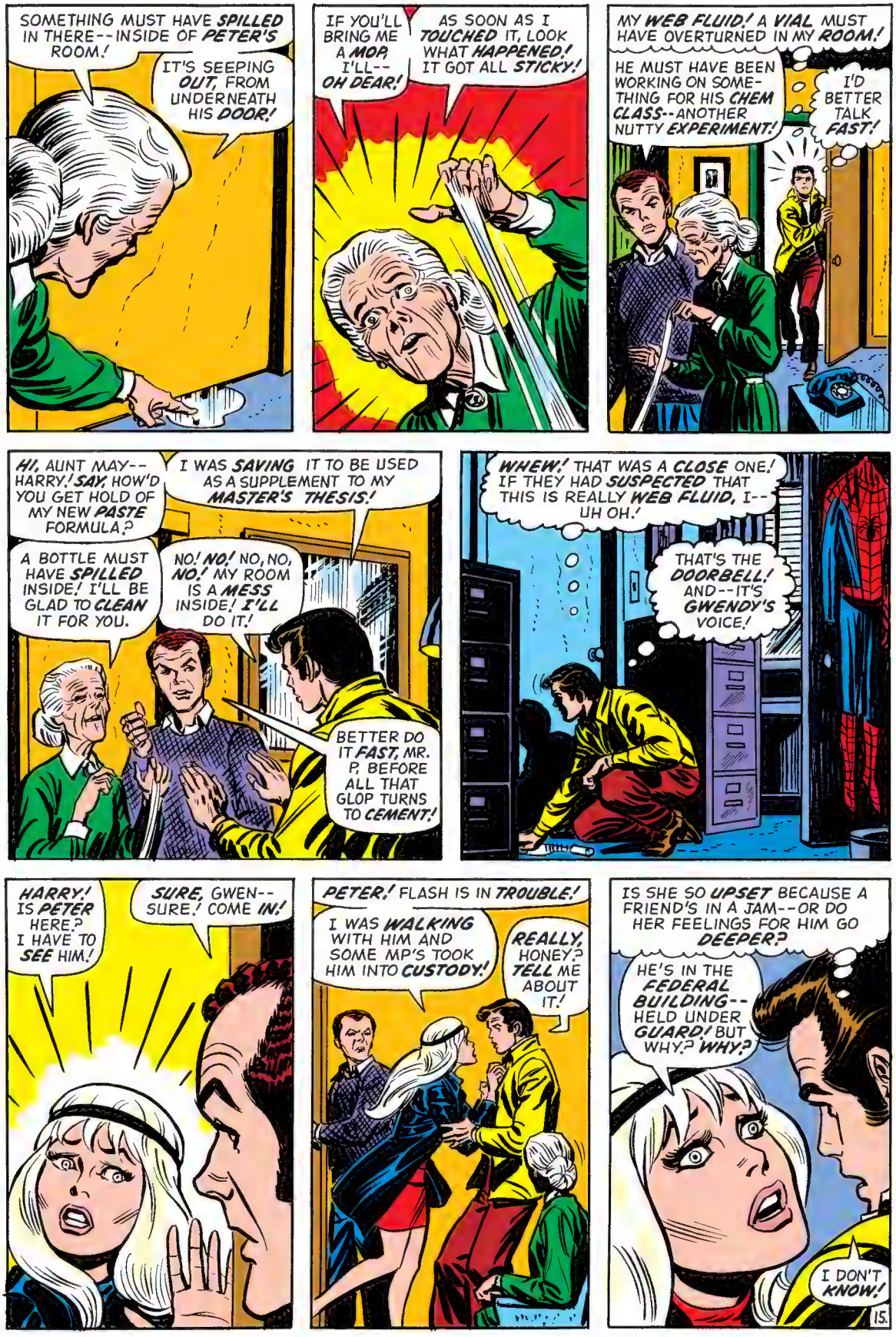
SECONDS LATER, A FEW FLOORS BELOW, AT THE FEDERAL BUILDING, WE FIND--
STOP FUSSIN' OVER ME, DOC-- I'M NOT HURT, I TELL YA!
BUT THE PENTAGON'LL HAVE MY HIDE WHEN THEY FIND OUT THAT THOMPSON WAS NABBED BY SPIDER-MAN!
HEY, LOOK! UP THERE-- OUT THE WINDOW!

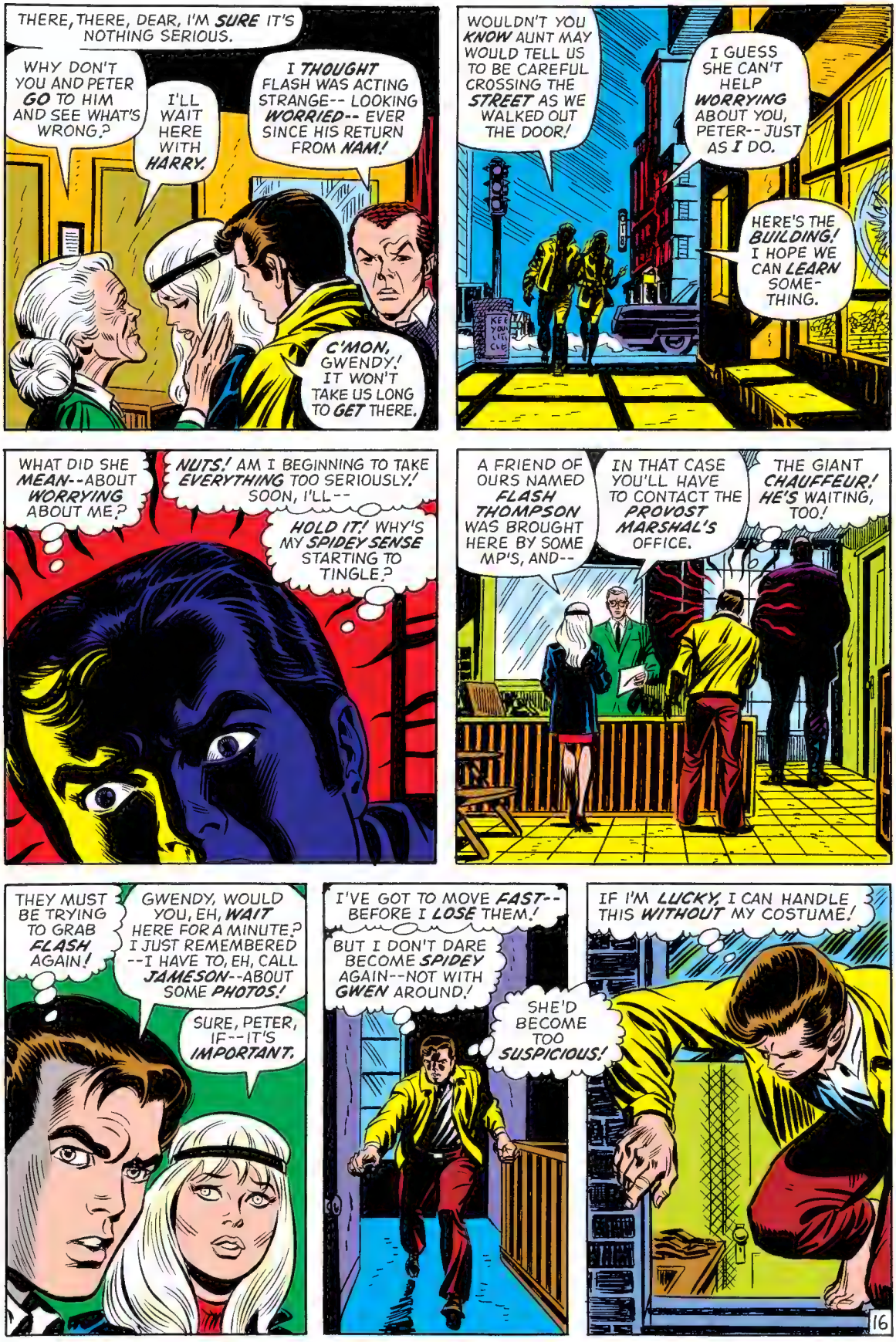

IT'S HIM!!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE! OPEN THE WINDOW AND LET 'IM IN!

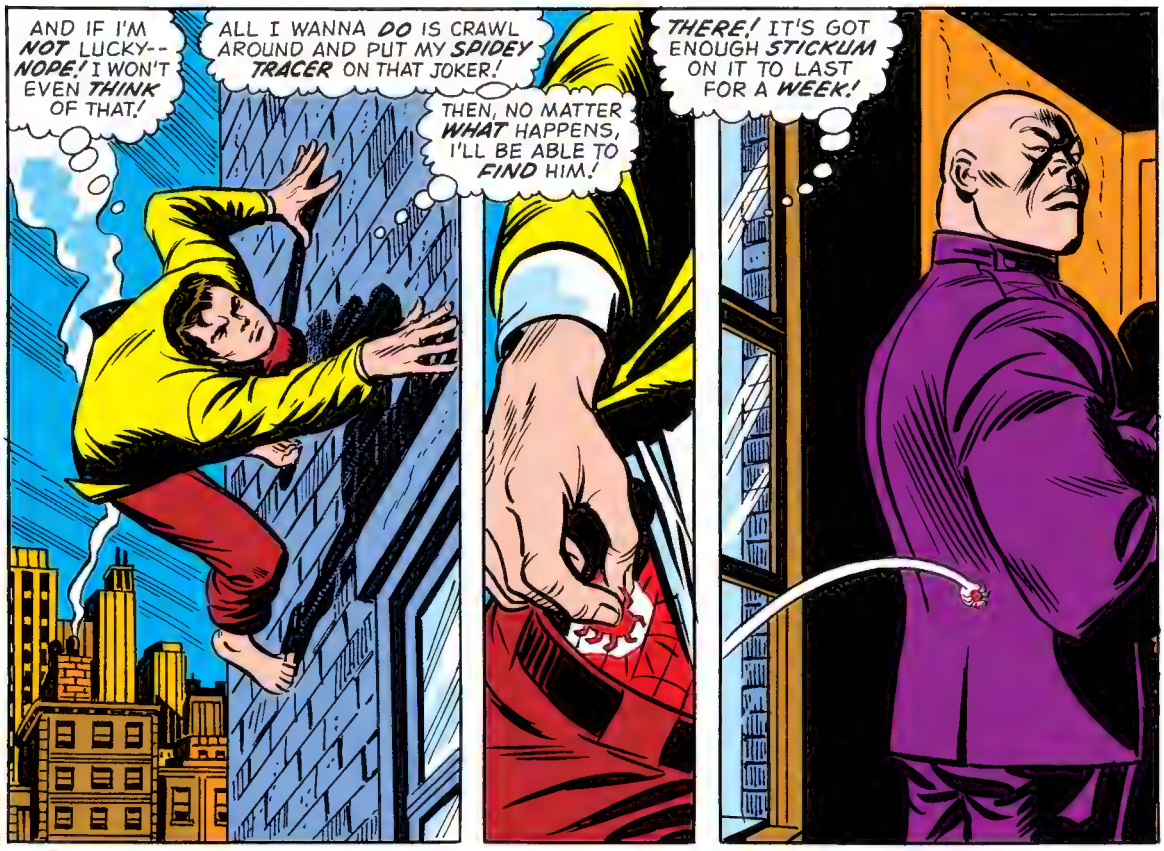
IT'S SPIDER-MAN! HE WAS TRYING TO KILL HIM!
NO! YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG! HE WAS TRYING TO HELP ME!
THE WEB-SWINGER-- BOTHERING TO HELP YOU? BUT WHY? I DON'T GET IT!
SIT HIM IN THE CHAIR! I'D BETTER GIVE HIM A FAST CHECK-UP!

I FIRST RAN INTO SPIDER-MAN YEARS AGO-- WHEN I WAS STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL! IN FACT, I EVEN FORMED A SPIDEY FAN CLUB!
I NEVER HAD A CLUE TO WHO HE REALLY WAS--BUT I ALWAYS FIGURED HE WAS THE GREATEST!
I DUNNO-- MAYBE THAT'S WHY HE SIDED WITH ME NOW! MAYBE HE REMEMBERS!
WELL, I'D RATHER HAVE HIM WITH ME THAN AGAINST ME --THAT'S FOR SURE!

IF THOSE FOLLOWERS OF THE OLD PRIEST REALLY THINK FLASH DID CAUSE HIS DEATH--AND THE SHELLING OF THE TEMPLE--
THWIP!
THEN THEY'LL STOP AT NOTHING TO GET THEIR REVENGE--TO SEE THAT HE PAYS WITH HIS LIFE!
BUT EVEN THOUGH I NEVER HAD ANY USE FOR THAT SWELL-HEADED LOTHARIO, FLASH ISN'T A LIAR! I BELIEVE HIS STORY!
AND THAT MEANS I'VE GOT TO FIND A WAY TO HELP HIM--'CAUSE THEY'RE SURE TO STRIKE AGAIN!
BUT HOW CAN I PROVE TO THEM THAT HE'S INNOCENT?
AND WHY SHOULD I WANT TO?
--ESPECIALLY WHEN I KNOW HOW HE FEELS ABOUT GWENDY!
HE'LL NEVER STOP TRYING TO TAKE HER FROM PETER PARKER!
WOW! WHAT A SCENE IT WOULD BE IF HE EVER FOUND OUT WHO LITTLE PETEY REALLY IS!
WELL, I BETTER GET BACK TO THE APARTMENT NOW! AUNT MAY SAID SHE'D BE DROPPING OVER.
AND, EVEN AS OUR HERO SWITCHES IDENTITIES FOR THE UMPTEENTH TIME, LET'S LOOK IN ON HIS APARTMENT A FEW FLOORS BELOW--
JUST MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE, MRS. PARKER! PETE SHOULD BE BACK ANY MINUTE NOW.
THANK YOU, DEAR BOY! I'LL JUST--
OH, LOOK! WHAT'S THAT?
BRAKSTEIN BY MORTELLA
14

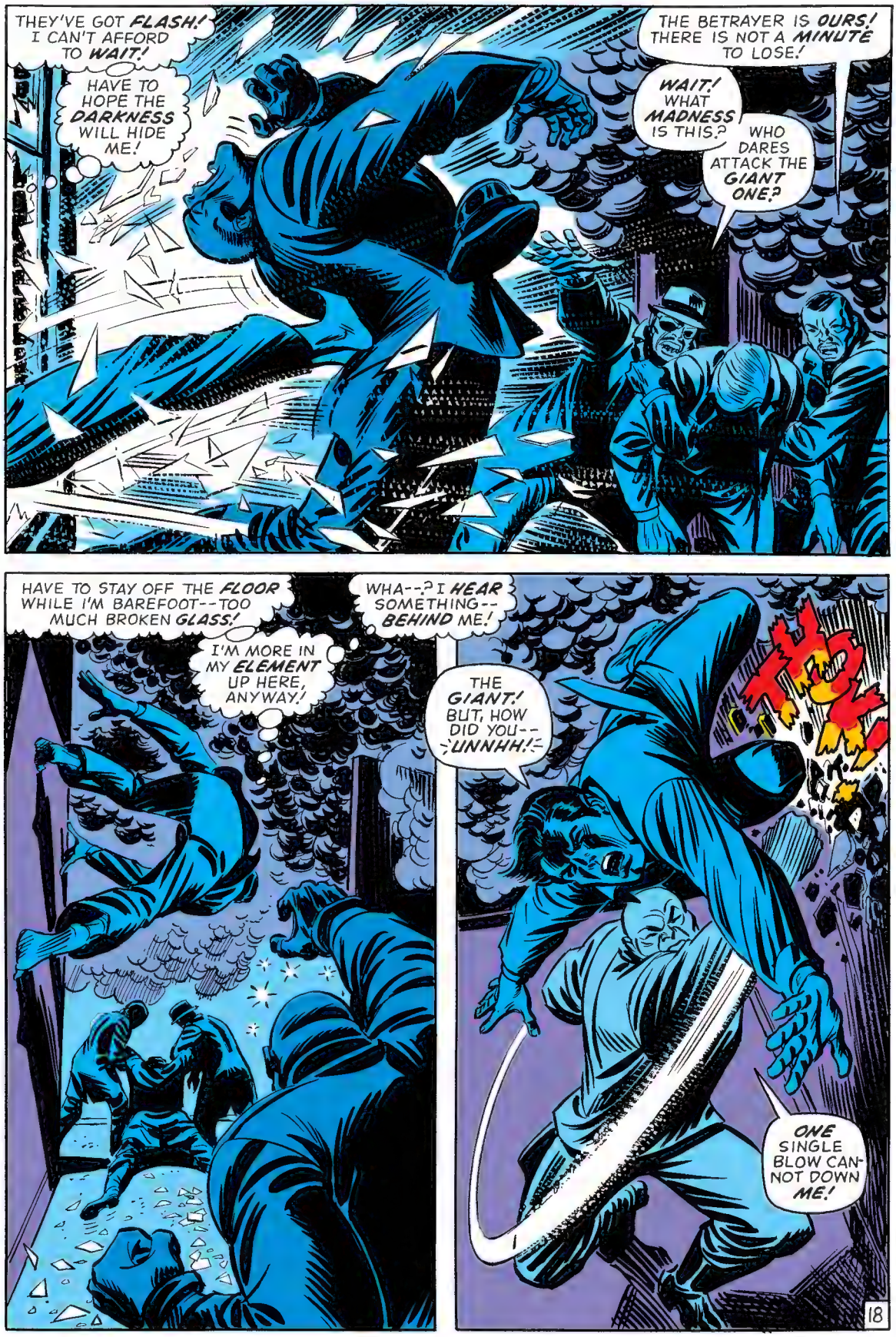

SOMETHING MUST HAVE SPILLED IN THERE--INSIDE OF PETER'S ROOM!
IT'S SEEPING OUT, FROM UNDERNEATH HIS DOOR!
IF YOU'LL BRING ME A MOP, I'LL--
OH DEAR!
AS SOON AS I TOUCHED IT, LOOK WHAT HAPPENED! IT GOT ALL STICKY!
MY WEB FLUID! A VIAL MUST HAVE OVERTURNED IN MY ROOM!
HE MUST HAVE BEEN WORKING ON SOMETHING FOR HIS CHEM CLASS--ANOTHER NUTTY EXPERIMENT!
I'D BETTER TALK FAST!
HI, AUNT MAY--HARRY! SAY, HOW'D YOU GET HOLD OF MY NEW PASTE FORMULA?
I WAS SAVING IT TO BE USED AS A SUPPLEMENT TO MY MASTER'S THESIS!
A BOTTLE MUST HAVE SPILLED INSIDE! I'LL BE GLAD TO CLEAN IT FOR YOU.
NO! NO! NO, NO, NO! MY ROOM IS A MESS INSIDE! I'LL DO IT!
BETTER DO IT FAST, MR. P, BEFORE ALL THAT GLOP TURNS TO CEMENT!
WHEW! THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE! IF THEY HAD SUSPECTED THAT THIS IS REALLY WEB FLUID, I--UH OH!
THAT'S THE DOORBELL! AND--IT'S GWENDY'S VOICE!
HARRY! IS PETER HERE? I HAVE TO SEE HIM!
SURE, GWEN--SURE! COME IN!
PETER! FLASH IS IN TROUBLE!
I WAS WALKING WITH HIM AND SOME MP'S TOOK HIM INTO CUSTODY!
REALLY, HONEY? TELL ME ABOUT IT!
IS SHE SO UPSET BECAUSE A FRIEND'S IN A JAM--OR DO HER FEELINGS FOR HIM GO DEEPER?
HE'S IN THE FEDERAL BUILDING--HELD UNDER GUARD! BUT WHY? WHY?
I DON'T KNOW!


THERE, THERE, DEAR, I'M SURE IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS.
WHY DON'T YOU AND PETER GO TO HIM AND SEE WHAT'S WRONG?
I'LL WAIT HERE WITH HARRY.
I THOUGHT FLASH WAS ACTING STRANGE-- LOOKING WORRIED-- EVER SINCE HIS RETURN FROM NAM!
C'MON, GWENDY! IT WON'T TAKE US LONG TO GET THERE.
WOULDN'T YOU KNOW AUNT MAY WOULD TELL US TO BE CAREFUL CROSSING THE STREET AS WE WALKED OUT THE DOOR!
I GUESS SHE CAN'T HELP WORRYING ABOUT YOU, PETER-- JUST AS I DO.
HERE'S THE BUILDING! I HOPE WE CAN LEARN SOME-THING.
WHAT DID SHE MEAN--ABOUT WORRYING ABOUT ME?
NUTS! AM I BEGINNING TO TAKE EVERYTHING TOO SERIOUSLY! SOON, I'LL--
HOLD IT! WHY'S MY SPIDEY SENSE STARTING TO TINGLE?
A FRIEND OF OURS NAMED FLASH THOMPSON WAS BROUGHT HERE BY SOME MP'S, AND--
IN THAT CASE YOU'LL HAVE TO CONTACT THE PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE.
THE GIANT CHAUFFEUR! HE'S WAITING, TOO!
THEY MUST BE TRYING TO GRAB FLASH AGAIN!
GWENDY, WOULD YOU, EH, WAIT HERE FOR A MINUTE? I JUST REMEMBERED --I HAVE TO, EH, CALL JAMESON--ABOUT SOME PHOTOS!
SURE, PETER, IF--IT'S IMPORTANT.
I'VE GOT TO MOVE FAST-- BEFORE I LOSE THEM!
BUT I DON'T DARE BECOME SPIDEY AGAIN--NOT WITH GWEN AROUND!
SHE'D BECOME TOO SUSPICIOUS!
IF I'M LUCKY, I CAN HANDLE THIS WITHOUT MY COSTUME!

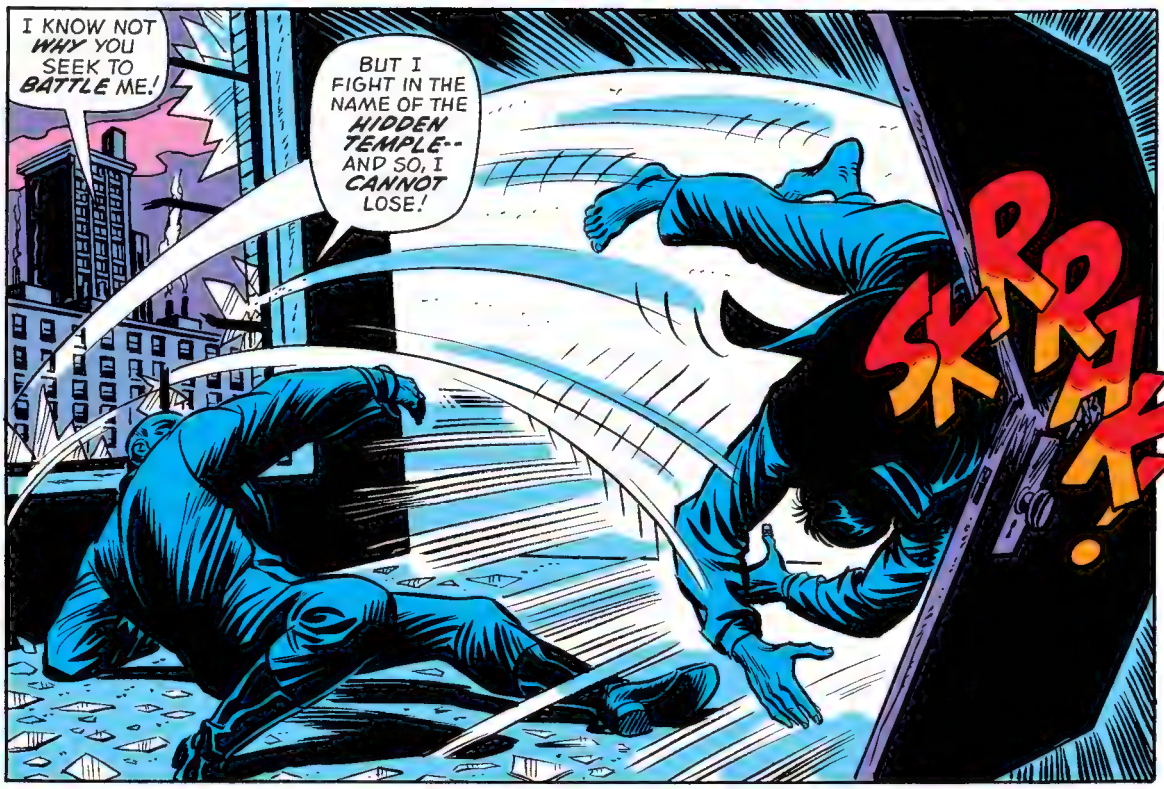

AND IF I'M NOT LUCKY-- NOPE! I WON'T EVEN THINK OF THAT!
ALL I WANNA DO IS CRAWL AROUND AND PUT MY SPIDEY TRACER ON THAT JOKER!
THEN, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, I'LL BE ABLE TO FIND HIM!
THERE! IT'S GOT ENOUGH STICKUM ON IT TO LAST FOR A WEEK!

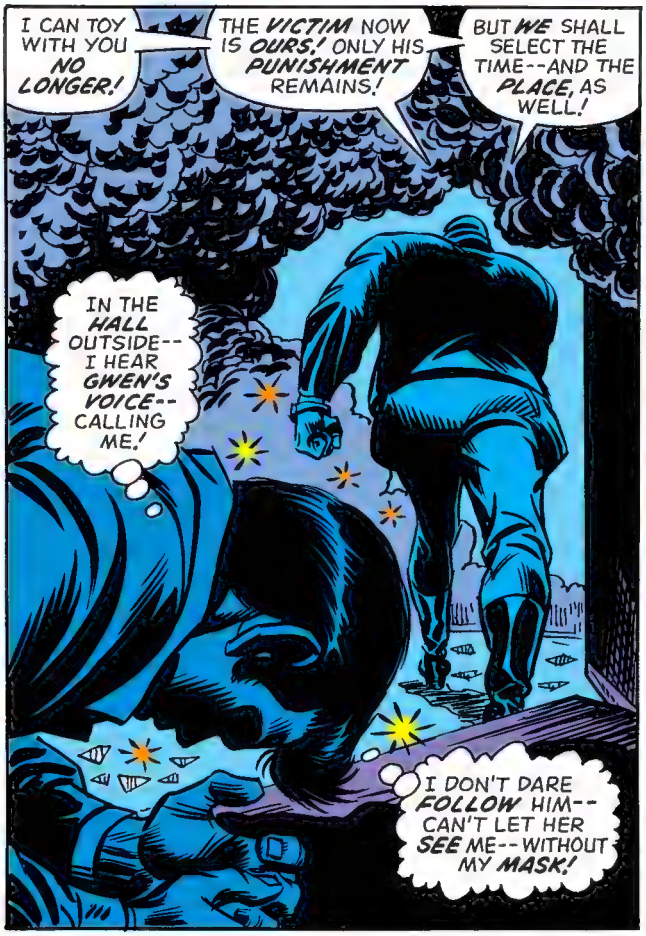
BUT, BEFORE THE AMAZING WALL-CRAWLER CAN RETRACE HIS PERILOUS ROUTE--
AN EXPLOSION! AT THE OTHER END OF THE CORRIDOR!
BLOOM

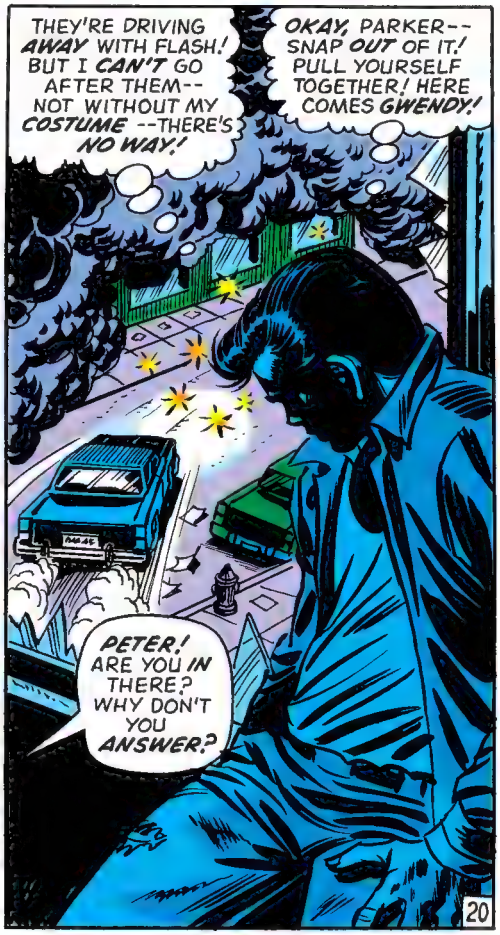
IT IS AS WE PLANNED! ALL IS IN CONFUSION! THE LIGHTS HAVE GONE OUT!
THE TIME IS COME! EVEN NOW, I HEAR THEM RETURN WITH OUR PREY!
HE WILL NOT ESCAPE US AGAIN!
IN THE NAME OF THE SACRED TEMPLE, WE SHALL BE AVENGED!

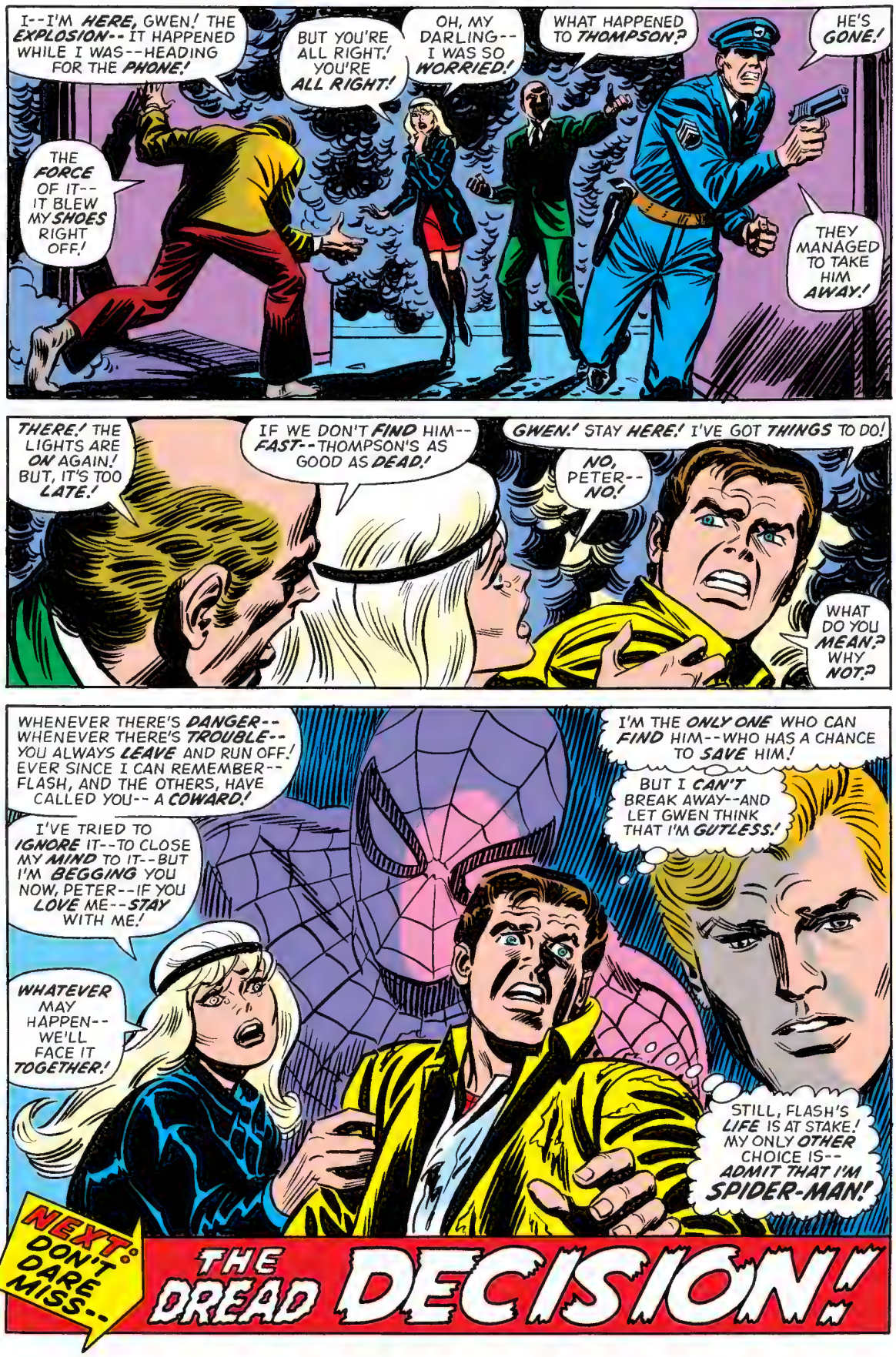

THEY'VE GOT FLASH! I CAN'T AFFORD TO WAIT!
HAVE TO HOPE THE DARKNESS WILL HIDE ME!
THE BETRAYER IS OURS! THERE IS NOT A MINUTE TO LOSE!
WAIT! WHAT MADNESS IS THIS?
WHO DARES ATTACK THE GIANT ONE?
HAVE TO STAY OFF THE FLOOR WHILE I'M BAREFOOT--TOO MUCH BROKEN GLASS!
I'M MORE IN MY ELEMENT UP HERE, ANYWAY!
WHA--? I HEAR SOMETHING-- BEHIND ME!
THE GIANT! BUT, HOW DID YOU--
UNNHH!
ONE SINGLE BLOW CAN-NOT DOWN ME!
18

IN ALL INDO-CHINA, NONE CAN MATCH THE POWER OF THE GIANT ONE!
YEAH? THAT AND A QUARTER'LL GET YOU AN EGG ROLL!
WHILE HE'S BRAGGING 'BOUT HIS BICEPS, I'LL COUNT ON MY SPIDEY SPEED TO BEAT HIM!
IF ONLY I CAN WRAP THIS UP BEFORE THEY TURN THE LIGHTS BACK ON!
HE'S CHARGING! HOW CAN A GUY SO BIG MOVE SO FAST?
WOW! IT'S LIKE TAKING A POKE AT A STONE WALL!
WEARING THIS JACKET IS A NO NO! IT'S HARDER TO THROW A PUNCH WHEN I'M--
MY ANKLE! I UNDERESTIMATED THAT REACH OF HIS! HE'S GOT ME!
NONE BUT YOU HAVE EVER TOPPLED ME BEFORE!


I KNOW NOT WHY YOU SEEK TO BATTLE ME!
BUT I FIGHT IN THE NAME OF THE HIDDEN TEMPLE--AND SO, I CANNOT LOSE!
SKRRAK!


I CAN TOY WITH YOU NO LONGER!
THE VICTIM NOW IS OURS! ONLY HIS PUNISHMENT REMAINS!
BUT WE SHALL SELECT THE TIME--AND THE PLACE, AS WELL!
IN THE HALL OUTSIDE--I HEAR GWEN'S VOICE--CALLING ME!
I DON'T DARE FOLLOW HIM--CAN'T LET HER SEE ME--WITHOUT MY MASK!


THEY'RE DRIVING AWAY WITH FLASH! BUT I CAN'T GO AFTER THEM--NOT WITHOUT MY COSTUME --THERE'S NO WAY!
OKAY, PARKER--SNAP OUT OF IT! PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER! HERE COMES GWENDY!
PETER! ARE YOU IN THERE? WHY DON'T YOU ANSWER?


I--I'M HERE, GWEN! THE EXPLOSION-- IT HAPPENED WHILE I WAS--HEADING FOR THE PHONE!
BUT YOU'RE ALL RIGHT! YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
OH, MY DARLING-- I WAS SO WORRIED!
WHAT HAPPENED TO THOMPSON?
HE'S GONE!
THE FORCE OF IT-- IT BLEW MY SHOES RIGHT OFF!
THEY MANAGED TO TAKE HIM AWAY!
THERE! THE LIGHTS ARE ON AGAIN! BUT, IT'S TOO LATE!
IF WE DON'T FIND HIM-- FAST--THOMPSON'S AS GOOD AS DEAD!
GWEN! STAY HERE! I'VE GOT THINGS TO DO!
NO, PETER-- NO!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHY NOT?
WHENEVER THERE'S DANGER-- WHENEVER THERE'S TROUBLE-- YOU ALWAYS LEAVE AND RUN OFF! EVER SINCE I CAN REMEMBER-- FLASH, AND THE OTHERS, HAVE CALLED YOU-- A COWARD!
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN FIND HIM--WHO HAS A CHANCE TO SAVE HIM!
BUT I CAN'T BREAK AWAY--AND LET GWEN THINK THAT I'M GUTLESS!
I'VE TRIED TO IGNORE IT--TO CLOSE MY MIND TO IT--BUT I'M BEGGING YOU NOW, PETER--IF YOU LOVE ME--STAY WITH ME!
WHATEVER MAY HAPPEN-- WE'LL FACE IT TOGETHER!
STILL, FLASH'S LIFE IS AT STAKE! MY ONLY OTHER CHOICE IS-- ADMIT THAT I'M SPIDER-MAN!
NEXT: DON'T DARE MISS--
THE DREAD DECISION!

SPIDER-MAN
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APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™
ENTER... DR. STRANGE!

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!™
ENTER: DR. STRANGE!
YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT PROBLEMS? C'MON, LET'S TUNE IN ON PETER PARKER'S--
LAST ISH, PETE LEARNED THAT FLASH THOMPSON WAS CAPTURED BY ASIAN MONKS BECAUSE THEY BLAMED HIM FOR THE DEATH OF THEIR HIGH PRIEST AND THE DESTRUCTION OF THEIR TEMPLE IN VIET NAM!
IN HIS GUISE AS THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, OUR HERO LEARNED THAT FLASH WAS INNOCENT! HE ACTUALLY WAS TRYING TO SAVE THE TEMPLE AND THE PRIEST! BUT A FAT LOT OF GOOD THAT'S GONNA DO HIM NOW, BECAUSE--
WHILE BRINGING GORGEOUS GWEN STACY TO VISIT THE LUCKLESS VET, PETER SAW FLASH BEING ATTACKED AND ABDUCTED BY VENGEFUL FANATICS! UNABLE TO CHANGE INTO HIS SPIDER-MAN GARB, PETE LEAPT INTO ACTION IN HIS PETER PARKER IDENTITY, TRUSTING TO THE DARKNESS TO CONCEAL HIS FEATURES!
BUT, THOUGH HE BATTLED VALIANTLY, THE AMAZING YOUTH WAS UNABLE TO PREVENT FLASH'S CAPTURE, AND COULDN'T FOLLOW THE CAPTORS WITHOUT REVEALING HIS TRUE IDENTITY TO THE GIRL HE LOVES!
AND NOW THAT YOU'VE FINISHED THE LONGEST SUMMARY ON RECORD, LET'S GET ON WITH IT, TEAM!
I CAN'T GO AFTER FLASH! I CAN'T! NOT WHILE GWENDY IS WATCHING!
I CAN'T LET HER LEARN THAT I'M REALLY SPIDER-MAN! NOT NOW!
IF ONLY GWEN AND THE K.P.'S HADN'T FOUND ME SO SOON!
BUT AT LEAST I PLANTED MY SPIDEY TRACER ON THE GIANT WHO CARRIED OFF FLASH!
P.S.: YOU'RE SOON GONNA MEET THE SURPRISE STAR YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!
SCRIPT: STAN LEE
ART: JOHN ROMITA
LETTERING: ART SIMEK
920 Z

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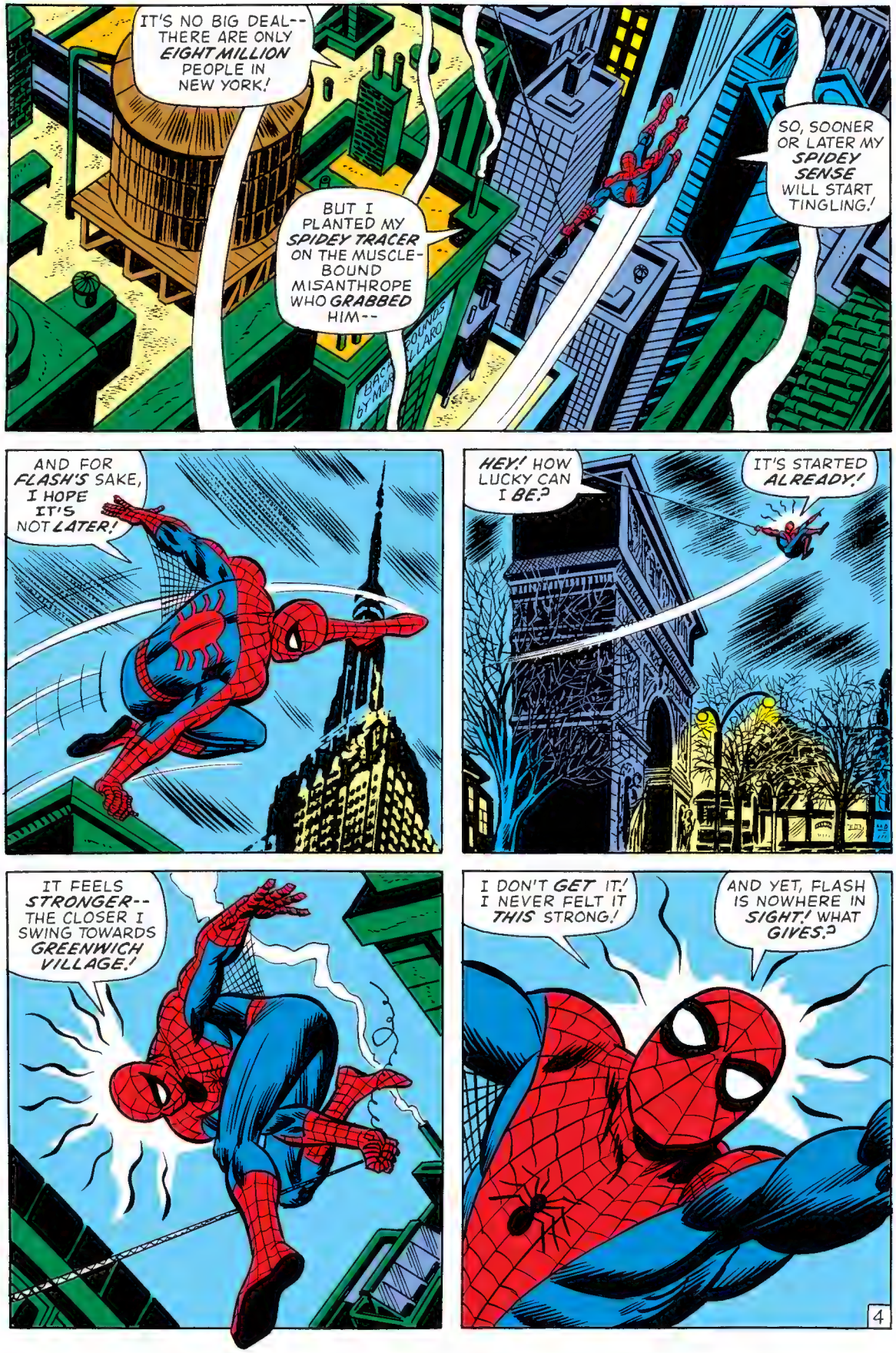
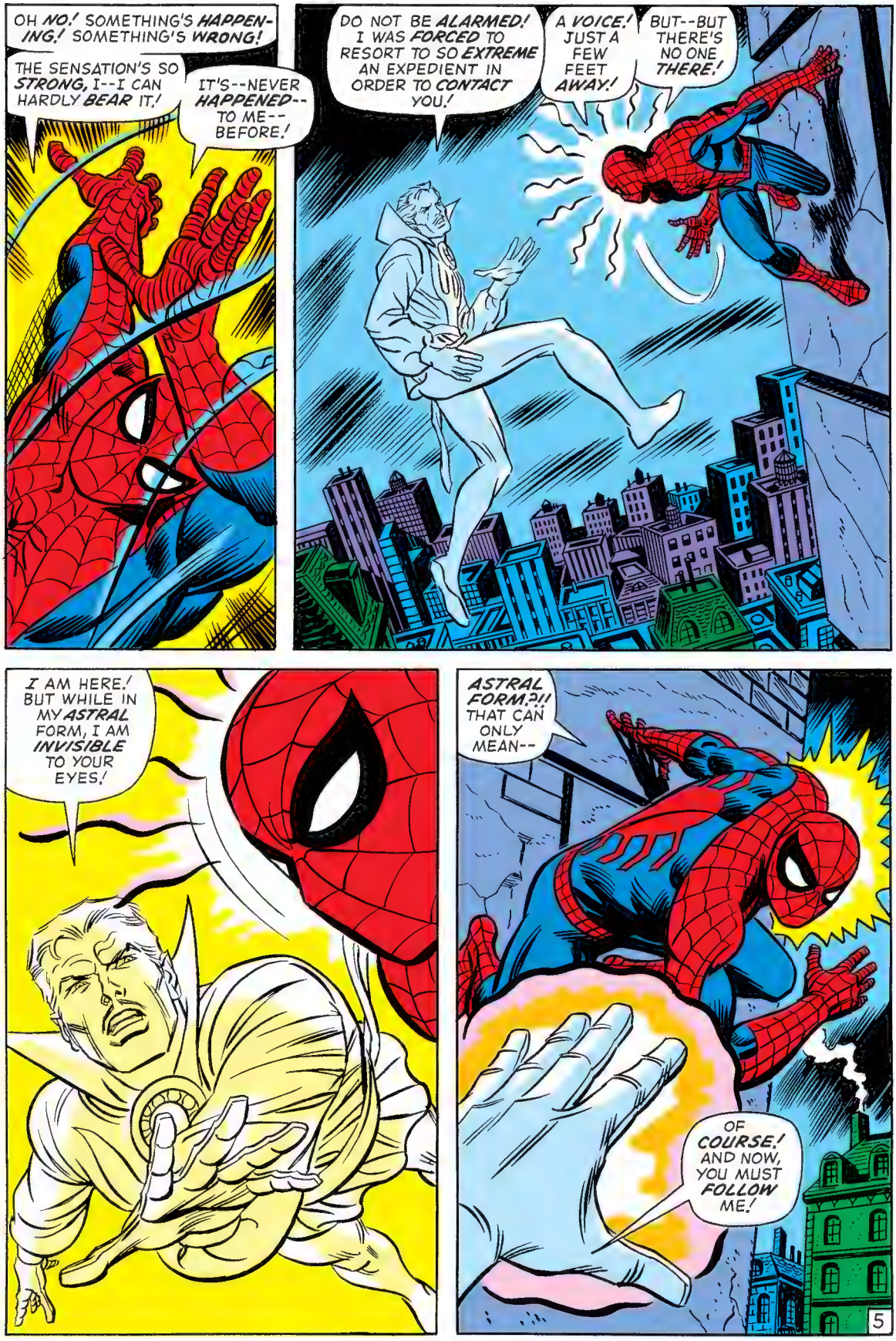
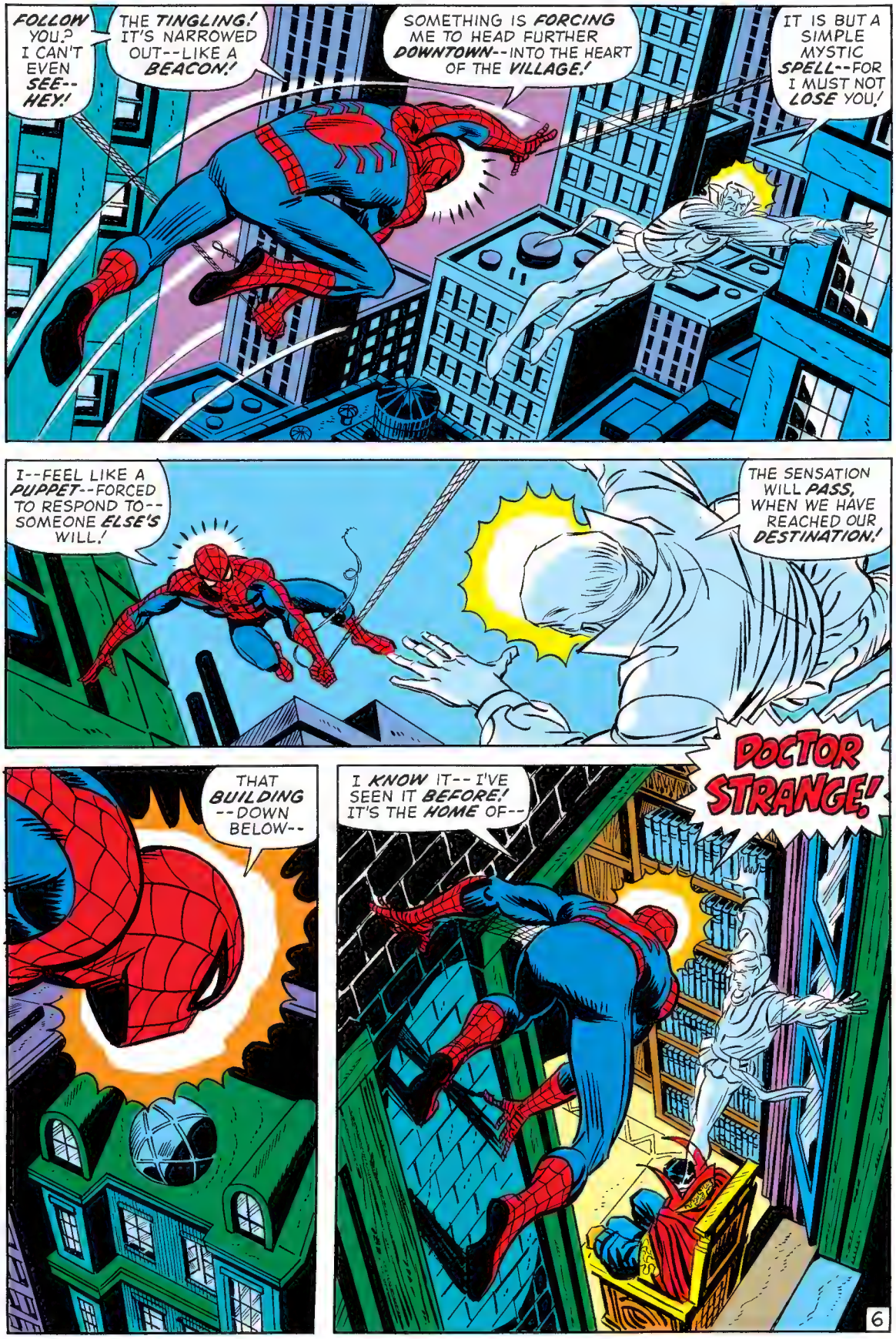
WOW! THE GUY WHO CUT OUT WITH THOMPSON MUST'A BEEN A LIVIN' GIANT!
I'M GLAD YOU DIDN'T RUN OFF THIS TIME, PETER!
IN THE PAST, EVERYONE CALLED YOU GUTLESS BECAUSE YOU ALWAYS DUCKED OUT WHENEVER THERE WAS TROUBLE!
GET EVERY AVAILABLE MAN ON THE STREET!
I WANT HIM FOUND, DO YOU HEAR? I WANT THOMPSON FOUND!
IT'S NOT TO BE BELIEVED!
SPIDEY CAN'T TAKE OFF TO SAVE FLASH WITHOUT HER THINKING THAT PARKER'S CHICKEN.
THESE YOUR SHOES, SON? FOUND 'EM IN THE HALL!
I HAVE TO THINK FAST! I TOOK THEM OFF SO I COULD CLIMB THE WALLS WITH MY SPIDEY POWER!
OH YEAH, SURE! THE EXPLOSION MUST HAVE BLOWN THEM OFF WHEN IT CAUGHT ME!
WHEW! LUCKY FOR ME THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION!
EVERYONE'S TOO UPTIGHT TO QUESTION MY STORY!
BUT I STILL HAVE TO GO AFTER FLASH--SOMEHOW!
THINK, WEB-HEAD, THINK! THERE MUST BE A WAY!
BE RIGHT BACK! I'LL JUST WASH UP A BIT.
OKAY! AT LEAST I'M ALONE NOW!
BUT EVERY SECOND I WASTE IS PUTTING POOR FLASH IN EVEN GREATER DANGER!
I NEED SOME EXCUSE-- AN EXCUSE TO GO AFTER HIM!
WAS
OH BROTHER! I FORGOT MY COLLAR WAS OPEN--WITH THE TOP OF MY SPIDEY SHIRT PEEKING THRU!
IF ANYONE HAD SPOTTED IT-- I COULD HAVE KISSED MY COVER GOODBYE!
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE! THIS GIVES ME AN IDEA!
I'VE GOT MY COSTUME-- AND MY CIVVIES WITH ME!
SO, IF MY LUCK JUST HOLDS OUT--
2

JUST A FEW SECONDS LATER--
LISTEN! WHAT'S THAT COMMOTION IN THE WASHROOM?
IT SOUNDS LIKE A FIGHT! SOMETHING MUST BE HAPPENING TO PARKER!
MAYBE ONE OF THOSE KILLERS STAYED BEHIND! IF THEY KNOW THAT PETER IS FLASH'S FRIEND--!
LET'S GET IN THERE! WE HAVE TO HELP HIM!
NO! LOOK-- LOOK! OUT THE WINDOW--
IT'S SPIDER-MAN! HE'S MAKING OFF WITH PARKER!
OH MY GOD! NOT AGAIN! NOT AGAIN!*
RELAX! I'M NOT GONNA HURT THIS CLOWN!
I JUST WANNA ASK 'IM A FEW QUESTIONS!
*YOU GUESSED IT! THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME SPIDEY'S PULLED THIS STUNT! --SLY STAN.
IT'S A GOOD THING MY VOICE GETS MUFFLED, AND UNRECOGNIZABLE UNDER MY MASK!
WATCH IT! DON'T DROP HIM!
IT--IT'S MY FAULT! IF I HADN'T INSISTED THAT PETER STAY HERE-- IF I HAD LET HIM GO--
DROPPING THAT HUNK OF ROLLED-UP WEBBING WOULDN'T HURT ANYTHING--
--BUT I'M NOT ABOUT TO TELL THAT TO THEM!
NOW, ALL I'VE GOT TO DO IS FIND FLASH!
YEAH, THAT'S ALL!
3

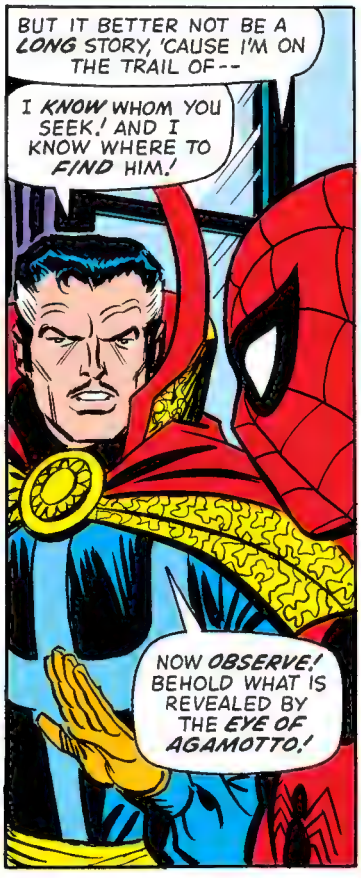

IT'S NO BIG DEAL-- THERE ARE ONLY EIGHT MILLION PEOPLE IN NEW YORK!
BUT I PLANTED MY SPIDEY TRACER ON THE MUSCLE-BOUND MISANTHROPE WHO GRABBED HIM--
SO, SOONER OR LATER MY SPIDEY SENSE WILL START TINGLING!
AND FOR FLASH'S SAKE, I HOPE IT'S NOT LATER!
HEY! HOW LUCKY CAN I BE?
IT'S STARTED ALREADY!
IT FEELS STRONGER-- THE CLOSER I SWING TOWARDS GREENWICH VILLAGE!
I DON'T GET IT! I NEVER FELT IT THIS STRONG!
AND YET, FLASH IS NOWHERE IN SIGHT! WHAT GIVES?
4


OH NO! SOMETHING'S HAPPENING! SOMETHING'S WRONG!
THE SENSATION'S SO STRONG, I--I CAN HARDLY BEAR IT!
IT'S--NEVER HAPPENED-- TO ME-- BEFORE!
DO NOT BE ALARMED! I WAS FORCED TO RESORT TO SO EXTREME AN EXPEDIENT IN ORDER TO CONTACT YOU!
A VOICE! JUST A FEW FEET AWAY!
BUT--BUT THERE'S NO ONE THERE!
I AM HERE! BUT WHILE IN MY ASTRAL FORM, I AM INVISIBLE TO YOUR EYES!
ASTRAL FORM?!! THAT CAN ONLY MEAN--
OF COURSE! AND NOW, YOU MUST FOLLOW ME!


FOLLOW YOU.? I CAN'T EVEN SEE-- HEY!
THE TINGLING! IT'S NARROWED OUT--LIKE A BEACON!
SOMETHING IS FORCING ME TO HEAD FURTHER DOWNTOWN--INTO THE HEART OF THE VILLAGE!
IT IS BUT A SIMPLE MYSTIC SPELL--FOR I MUST NOT LOSE YOU!
I--FEEL LIKE A PUPPET--FORCED TO RESPOND TO--SOMEONE ELSE'S WILL!
THE SENSATION WILL PASS, WHEN WE HAVE REACHED OUR DESTINATION!
THAT BUILDING --DOWN BELOW--
I KNOW IT-- I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE! IT'S THE HOME OF--
DOCTOR STRANGE!

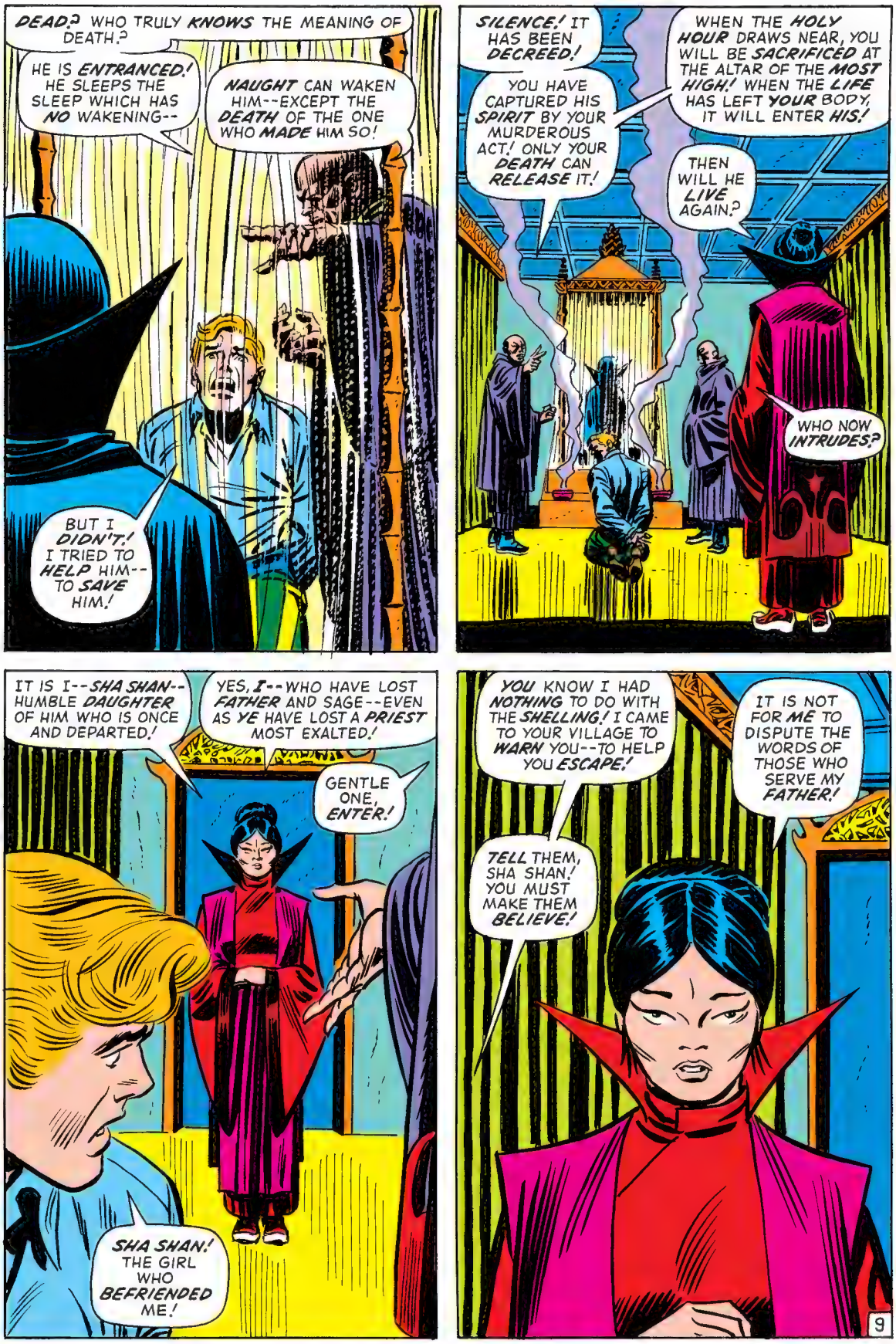
NOW THAT MY ASTRAL FORM HAS RETURNED, TO MERGE WITH MY PHYSICAL BEING, I GRANT YOU WELCOME, SPIDER-MAN!*
YOU HAVEN'T EVEN TURNED YOUR HEAD!
HOW CAN YOU SEE ME?
ENTER! YOU NEED CLING TO THE WALL NO LONGER!
NOT FOR NOTHING AM I CALLED--MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS!

*IF YOU WONDER HOW THEY KNOW EACH OTHER, THEY'VE MET BEFORE! A NO-PRIZE IF YOU REMEMBER WHEN! ('CAUSE WE DON'T!) --STAN

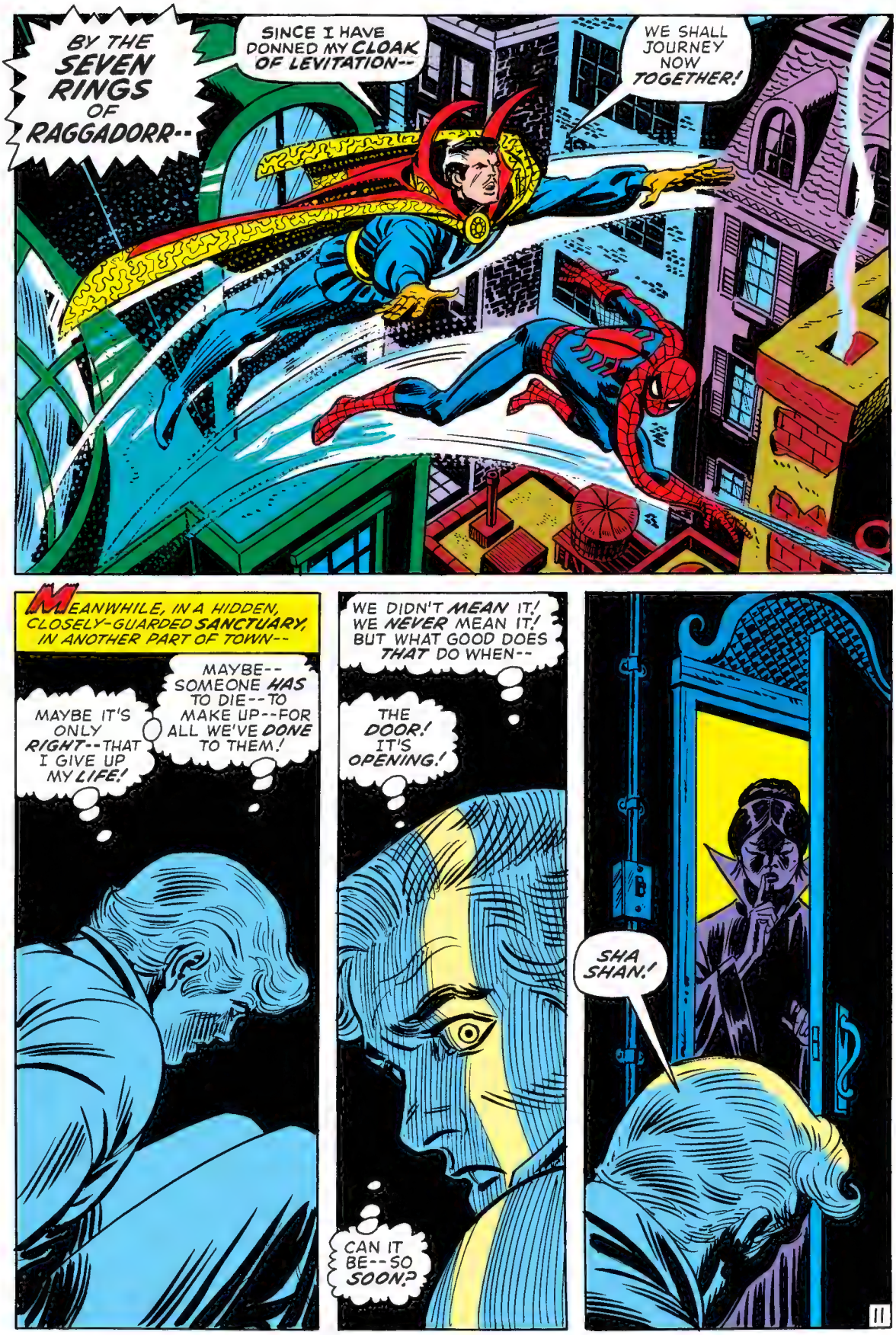

BUT IT BETTER NOT BE A LONG STORY, 'CAUSE I'M ON THE TRAIL OF--
I KNOW WHOM YOU SEEK! AND I KNOW WHERE TO FIND HIM!
NOW OBSERVE! BEHOLD WHAT IS REVEALED BY THE EYE OF AGAMOTTO!

NO SOONER HAS DR. STRANGE SPOKEN, THEN THE JEWELLED AMULET UPON HIS CHEST BEGINS TO GLOW WITH MYSTIC LIGHT, UNTIL--
THE ONE CALLED FLASH THOMPSON IS A CAPTIVE OF THOSE WHO WOULD DESTROY HIM!
IT'S HIM! HELPLESSLY KNEELING BEFORE AN ALTER--GUARDED BY THE MONKS!

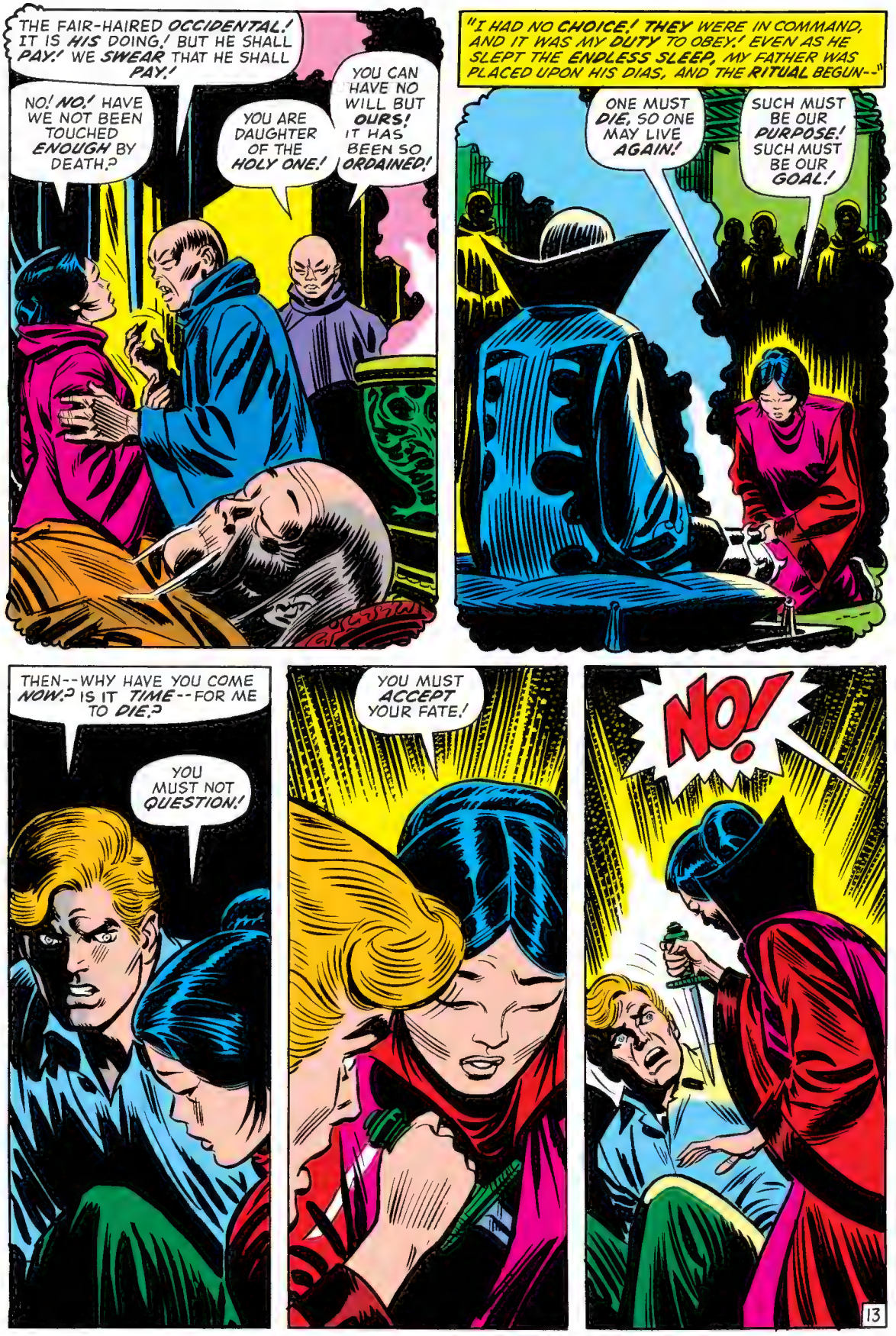
QUICK! TELL ME WHERE THEY ARE! I'VE GOT TO GET THERE-- BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
NO! HASTE WILL AVAIL YOU NOTHING!
LET THE SOUNDS OF THEIR SPEECH BE HEARD!
LIFT UP YOUR EYES AND SEE!
WHY? WHY MUST I LOOK AT AN IDOL?
IDOL? YOU THINK IT IS MERELY AN IDOL? THEN LOOK HARDER, INFIDEL!
LOOK! AND BE APPALLED AT THE SIGHT!
THE STATUE IN THE MIST IS GETTING CLEARER-- CLEARER--
NO! IT-- IT ISN'T A STATUE! IT'S--
IT'S THE HIGH PRIEST!
BUT-- HE'S DEAD! YOU TOLD ME HE WAS DEAD!


DEAD? WHO TRULY KNOWS THE MEANING OF DEATH?
HE IS ENTRANCED! HE SLEEPS THE SLEEP WHICH HAS NO WAKENING--
NAUGHT CAN WAKEN HIM--EXCEPT THE DEATH OF THE ONE WHO MADE HIM SO!
BUT I DIDN'T! I TRIED TO HELP HIM--TO SAVE HIM!
SILENCE! IT HAS BEEN DECREED!
YOU HAVE CAPTURED HIS SPIRIT BY YOUR MURDEROUS ACT! ONLY YOUR DEATH CAN RELEASE IT!
WHEN THE HOLY HOUR DRAWS NEAR, YOU WILL BE SACRIFICED AT THE ALTAR OF THE MOST HIGH! WHEN THE LIFE HAS LEFT YOUR BODY, IT WILL ENTER HIS!
THEN WILL HE LIVE AGAIN?
WHO NOW INTRUDES?
IT IS I--SHA SHAN--HUMBLE DAUGHTER OF HIM WHO IS ONCE AND DEPARTED!
YES, I--WHO HAVE LOST FATHER AND SAGE--EVEN AS YE HAVE LOST A PRIEST MOST EXALTED!
GENTLE ONE, ENTER!
SHA SHAN! THE GIRL WHO BEFRIENDED ME!
YOU KNOW I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE SHELLING! I CAME TO YOUR VILLAGE TO WARN YOU--TO HELP YOU ESCAPE!
TELL THEM, SHA SHAN! YOU MUST MAKE THEM BELIEVE!
IT IS NOT FOR ME TO DISPUTE THE WORDS OF THOSE WHO SERVE MY FATHER!
9

THE TIME FOR WORDS IS ENDED!
TO HIS CELL WITH HIM--UNTIL THE TIME OF THE HOLY HOUR!
THEN YOU WILL DIE--THAT OUR MASTER MAY LIVE!
I DIDN'T KILL HIM! I DIDN'T! I DIDN'T--
THE IMAGE IS FADING! THE SOUNDS ARE GROWING WEAKER!
YOU HAVE SEEN ENOUGH! YOU HAVE HEARD ENOUGH!
THEIR PRIEST NOW SLEEPS THE ENDLESS SLEEP--AND THEY TRULY BELIEVE ONLY THE DEATH OF YOUR FRIEND CAN MYSTICALLY GIVE HIM LIFE RENEWED!
THUS, WE MUST HASTEN--FOR THE HOLY HOUR DRAWS NEAR!
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU LEARNED ABOUT THIS--BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER NOW!
ALL YOU MUST TELL ME IS--WHERE DO I FIND THEM?
NO! I SHALL DO MORE THAN THAT--
MORE? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?


BY THE SEVEN RINGS OF RAGGADORR--
SINCE I HAVE DONNED MY CLOAK OF LEVITATION--
WE SHALL JOURNEY NOW TOGETHER!
MEANWHILE, IN A HIDDEN, CLOSELY-GUARDED SANCTUARY, IN ANOTHER PART OF TOWN--
MAYBE IT'S ONLY RIGHT--THAT I GIVE UP MY LIFE!
MAYBE--SOMEONE HAS TO DIE--TO MAKE UP--FOR ALL WE'VE DONE TO THEM!
WE DIDN'T MEAN IT! WE NEVER MEAN IT! BUT WHAT GOOD DOES THAT DO WHEN--
THE DOOR! IT'S OPENING!
CAN IT BE--SO SOON?
SHA SHAN!
11

YOU MUST BE SILENT! THEY MUST NOT FIND ME HERE! NOW HEED THE WORDS I SPEAK--
YOU-- YOU'VE COME TO HELP ME!
IS IT NOT FITTING? AM I NOT MY FATHER'S CHILD?
THEN WHY? WHY DIDN'T YOU SPEAK IN MY BEHALF?
SO STRONGLY DO THEY THIRST FOR VENGEANCE-- THEY WOULD NOT BELIEVE!
BUT SHA SHAN REMEMBERS!
YOU CAME TO THE TEMPLE, TO WARN US OF THE SHELLING!
YOU WOULD NOT SEEK SAFETY FOR YOURSELF, THOUGH WE PAID YOU NO HEED!
AND SO, YOU TOO WERE FELLED BY FALLING BOMBS!
"WHILE OTHERS FOUGHT THE DEADLY FLAMES, SHA SHAN GUIDED YOU TO SAFETY!"
HOLD IT, SERGEANT! THAT'S ONE OF OUR MEN!
WHAT'S HE DOIN' HERE?
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? LET'S GET 'IM!
"MY HEART REJOICED THAT YOU HAD BEEN FOUND! BUT, WHEN I RETURNED TO THE TEMPLE RUINS--"
THEY GRIEVE-- FOR MY FATHER!
HE HAS BEEN TAKEN FROM US!
THIS LOSS MUST BE AVENGED, MY BROTHER!


THE FAIR-HAIRED OCCIDENTAL! IT IS HIS DOING! BUT HE SHALL PAY! WE SWEAR THAT HE SHALL PAY!
NO! NO! HAVE WE NOT BEEN TOUCHED ENOUGH BY DEATH?
YOU ARE DAUGHTER OF THE HOLY ONE!
YOU CAN HAVE NO WILL BUT OURS! IT HAS BEEN SO ORDAINED!
"I HAD NO CHOICE! THEY WERE IN COMMAND, AND IT WAS MY DUTY TO OBEY! EVEN AS HE SLEPT THE ENDLESS SLEEP, MY FATHER WAS PLACED UPON HIS DIAS, AND THE RITUAL BEGUN--"
ONE MUST DIE, SO ONE MAY LIVE AGAIN!
SUCH MUST BE OUR PURPOSE! SUCH MUST BE OUR GOAL!
THEN--WHY HAVE YOU COME NOW? IS IT TIME--FOR ME TO DIE?
YOU MUST NOT QUESTION!
YOU MUST ACCEPT YOUR FATE!
NO!
13

WOULD YOU CONDEMN YOUR FATHER TO ETERNAL SLEEP?
THE SACRED RITUAL MAY NOT BEGIN UNTIL THE HOLY HOUR--ELSE ALL BE LOST!
YOU MUST SHEATH YOUR BLADE ONCE MORE! BUT IT SHALL NOT BE FOR LONG!
THE TIME IS ALMOST NIGH! THE ALTAR AWAITS!
SO REST YOU IN SECLUSION --UNTIL OUR FINAL CALL!
WHEN NEXT YOU MEET, THE HOLY ONE SHALL LIVE AGAIN--THE FAIR-HAIRED ONE SHALL DIE!
AND, SPEAKING OF FAIR-HAIRED ONES, WHAT ABOUT THE GORGEOUS GWEN--?
GWEN! WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S WRONG?
HAVE YOU SEEN PETER? HAS HE CALLED?
NO! NOT A WORD? BUT--WHY?
THEN--HE MUST STILL BE A CAPTIVE OF--SPIDER-MAN!
DON'T SAY THAT!
OH, HARRY--IT--IT'S HORRIBLE! THAT MASKED MURDERER SEIZED HIM--TOOK HIM PRISONER--AND VANISHED IN THE NIGHT!
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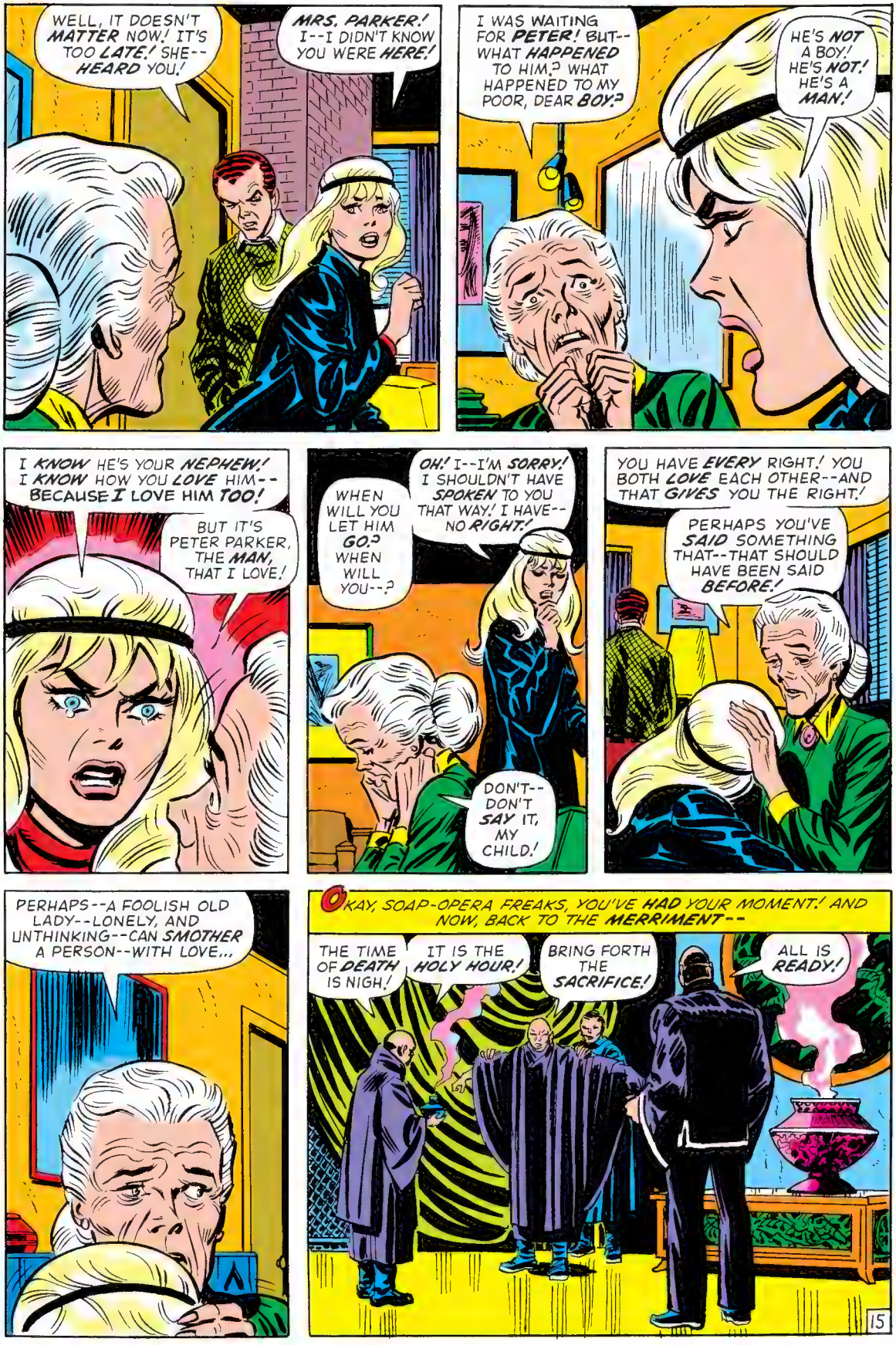
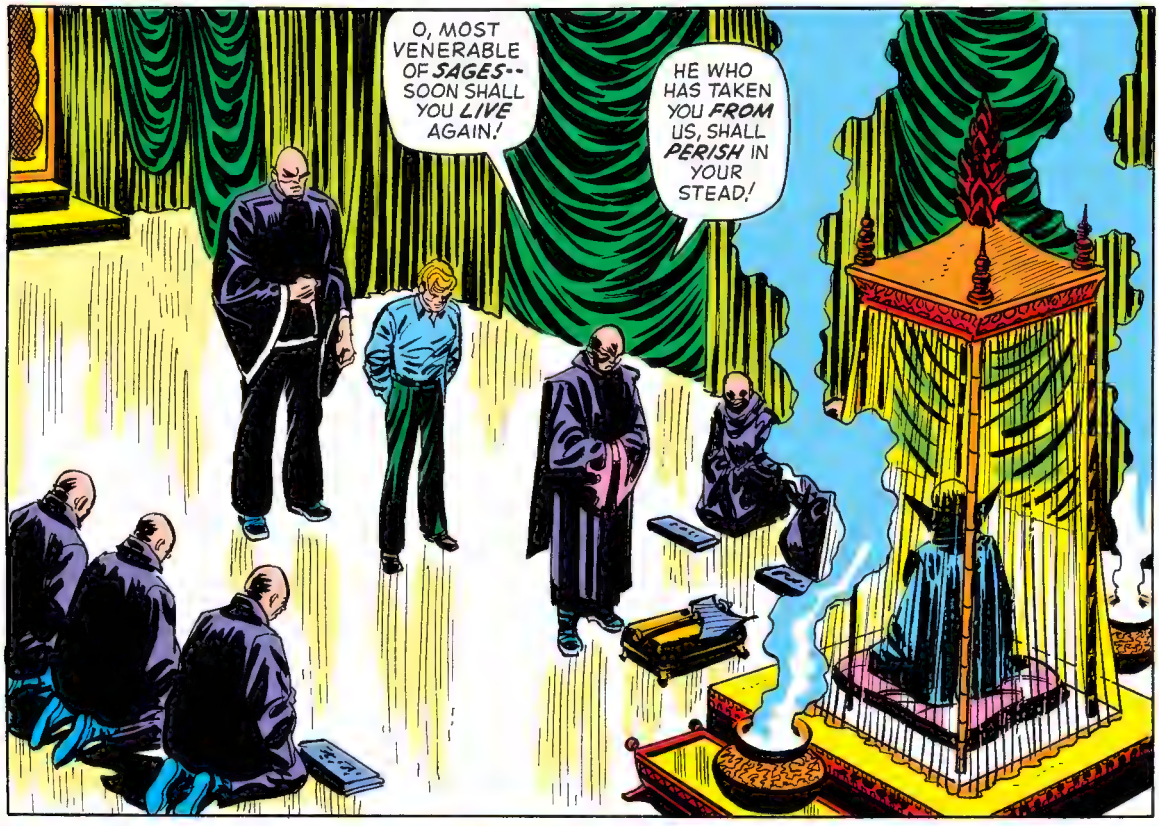
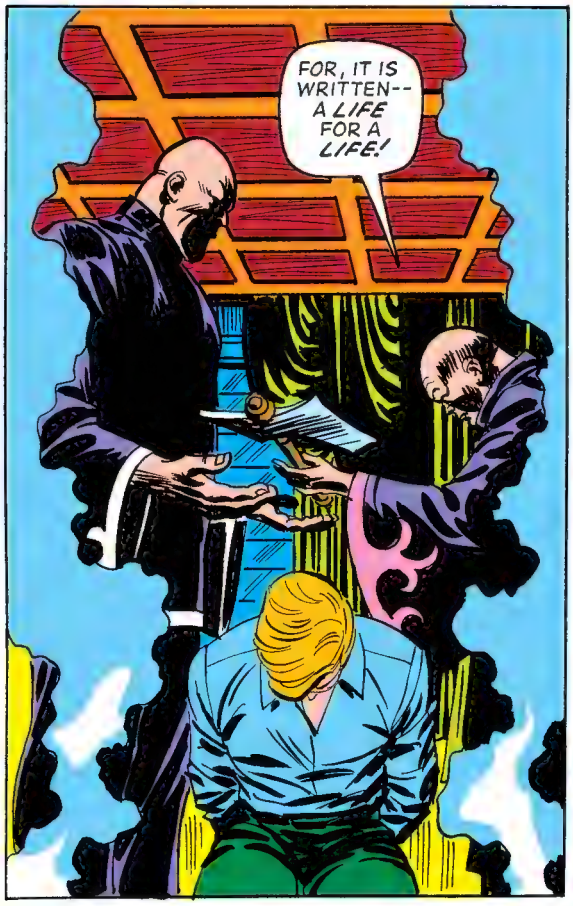
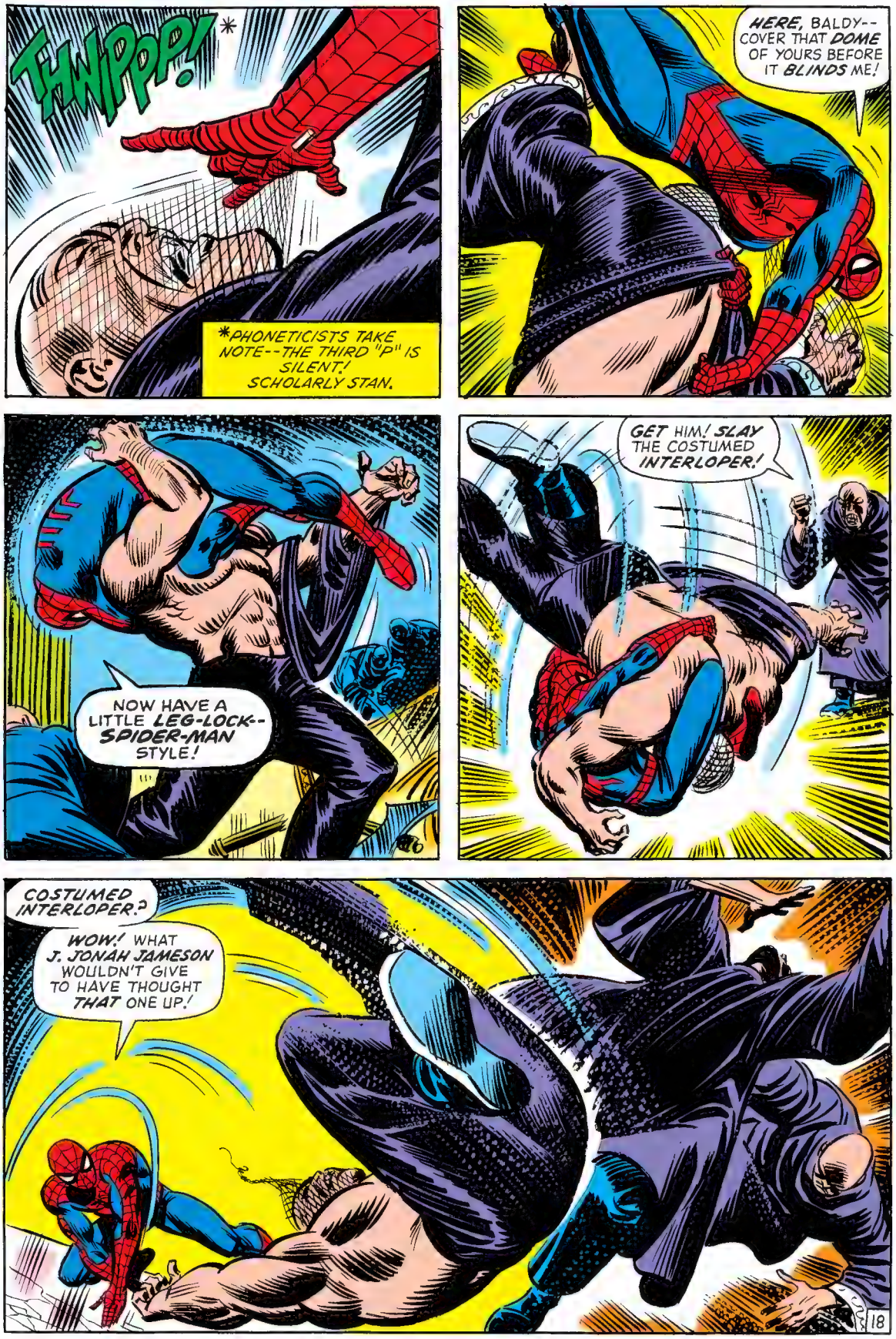

WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER NOW! IT'S TOO LATE! SHE--HEARD YOU!
MRS. PARKER! I--I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE HERE!
I WAS WAITING FOR PETER! BUT--WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM? WHAT HAPPENED TO MY POOR, DEAR BOY?
HE'S NOT A BOY! HE'S NOT! HE'S A MAN!
I KNOW HE'S YOUR NEPHEW! I KNOW HOW YOU LOVE HIM--BECAUSE I LOVE HIM TOO!
BUT IT'S PETER PARKER, THE MAN, THAT I LOVE!
WHEN WILL YOU LET HIM GO? WHEN WILL YOU--?
OH! I--I'M SORRY! I SHOULDN'T HAVE SPOKEN TO YOU THAT WAY! I HAVE--NO RIGHT!
DON'T--DON'T SAY IT, MY CHILD!
YOU HAVE EVERY RIGHT! YOU BOTH LOVE EACH OTHER--AND THAT GIVES YOU THE RIGHT!
PERHAPS YOU'VE SAID SOMETHING THAT--THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SAID BEFORE!
PERHAPS--A FOOLISH OLD LADY--LONELY, AND UNTHINKING--CAN SMOTHER A PERSON--WITH LOVE...
OKAY, SOAP-OPERA FREAKS, YOU'VE HAD YOUR MOMENT! AND NOW, BACK TO THE MERRIMENT--
THE TIME OF DEATH IS NIGH!
IT IS THE HOLY HOUR!
BRING FORTH THE SACRIFICE!
ALL IS READY!


O, MOST VENERABLE OF SAGES-- SOON SHALL YOU LIVE AGAIN!
HE WHO HAS TAKEN YOU FROM US, SHALL PERISH IN YOUR STEAD!


FOR, IT IS WRITTEN-- A LIFE FOR A LIFE!

SUDDENLY--A BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHT--A DEEP AND PIERCING CALL--
IT IS ALSO WRITTEN-- THOU SHALT NOT KILL!

DEMONS OF DARKNESS, IN THE NAME OF SATANNISH, BY THE FLAMES OF THE FALTINE-- LET YON WEAPON NOW VANISH!
STAY WITH IT, DOC! YOU MAKE WITH THE SPELLS WHILE I GRAB THOMPSON!
NO TIME TO FIDDLE WITH THE KNOTS RIGHT NOW--
SO DO YOUR STUFF, OL' SPIDEY STRENGTH!
SNAP!
MPPFFF!
NEVER AGAIN WILL YOU THWART OUR WILL!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE! SPLIT!
THIS IS RIGHT UP MY ALLEY!
YOU DON'T HAVETA TELL ME TWICE!


THWIPPP!*
*PHONETICISTS TAKE NOTE--THE THIRD "P" IS SILENT! SCHOLARLY STAN.
HERE, BALDY--COVER THAT DOME OF YOURS BEFORE IT BLINDS ME!
NOW HAVE A LITTLE LEG-LOCK--SPIDER-MAN STYLE!
GET HIM! SLAY THE COSTUMED INTERLOPER!
COSTUMED INTERLOPER?
WOW! WHAT J. JONAH JAMESON WOULDN'T GIVE TO HAVE THOUGHT THAT ONE UP!
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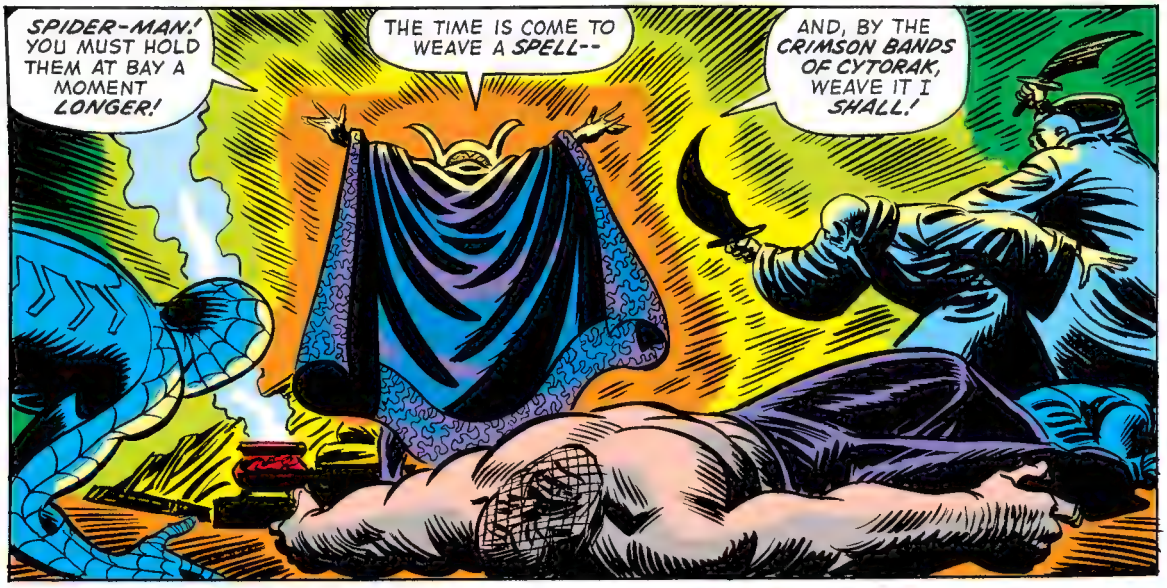
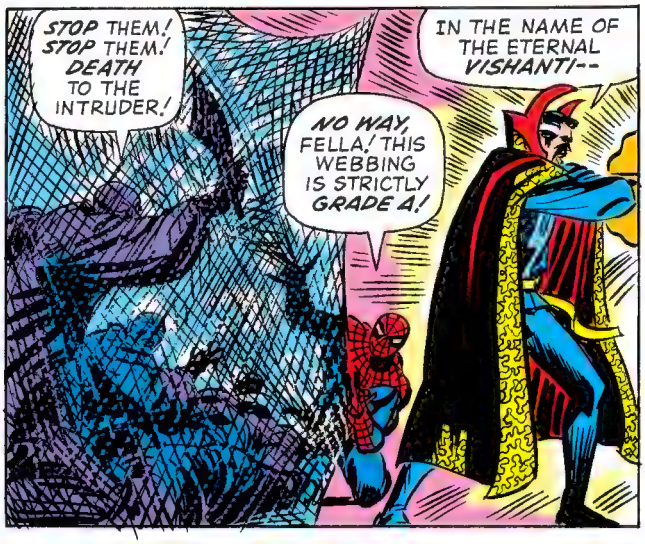

SPIDER-MAN! YOU MUST HOLD THEM AT BAY A MOMENT LONGER!
THE TIME IS COME TO WEAVE A SPELL--
AND, BY THE CRIMSON BANDS OF CYTORAK, WEAVE IT I SHALL!

THEN START WEAVING, MISTER! I'LL GIVE YOU THE TIME YOU NEED!
THWIPP!


STOP THEM! STOP THEM! DEATH TO THE INTRUDER!
NO WAY, FELLA! THIS WEBBING IS STRICTLY GRADE A!
IN THE NAME OF THE ETERNAL VISHANTI--

LET THE TRANCE BE DONE! LET THE VEIL BE TORN!

WITH NEW LIFE BEGUN--
BE YOU NOW-- REBORN!
FAIR-HAIRED ONE--YOU ARE FREE! HOW THE HEART OF SHA SHAN REJOICES!
THEN--YOU DIDN'T TRY TO STAB ME BEFORE?
NO! I WISHED TO SEVER YOUR BONDS-- TO SAVE YOU!
BUT ALAS, I WAS TOO SLOW--TOO WEAK!
I KNEW IT! I KNEW I COULDN'T BE WRONG ABOUT YOU!
NOW, ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS--HEY!
LISTEN! SOMEONE'S CALLING YOU! HIS VOICE! IT'S THE VOICE OF--
BRING FORTH SHA SHAN!
UPON MY CHILD I WOULD FEAST THESE AGED EYES!
SAINTED FATHER! YOU LIVE! YOU LIVE!
THE TRANCE IS ENDED! I AM MYSELF ONCE MORE!
LOOK, I'M AS GULLIBLE AS THE NEXT GUY-- BUT NOT EVEN YOU CAN BRING THE DEAD TO LIFE!
HE WAS NOT DEAD! USING THE WISDOM OF THE ANCIENTS, HE SURVIVED THE SHELLING BY PUTTING HIMSELF INTO A MYSTIC, PROTECTIVE TRANCE!
ALL THAT REMAINED WAS FOR MY SPELL TO BREAK THAT TRANCE!
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WHILE IN THE TRANCE, HE SENT A SILENT CALL--WHICH I, WITH MY POWER, COULD NOT FAIL TO HEED!
NOW ALL IS WELL, AND MY HEART EXALTS--FOR NOT A LIFE WAS LOST!
VIOLENCE BREEDS VIOLENCE--AND MURDER WILL OUT! ONLY IN PEACE IS VICTORY WON!
BUT I HAVE SAID ENOUGH! THERE IS A TIME TO STAY, AND A TIME TO SPEAK--
AND A TIME TO SAY--FAREWELL!
DO NOT FOLLOW AFTER! MY CLOAK OF LEVITATION SHALL TAKE ME SAFELY HENCE!
WOW! THAT'S GOT WEB-SWINGING BEAT ALL HOLLOW!
THE HOLY MAN TOLD HIS DISCIPLES I WASN'T TO BLAME FOR WHAT HAPPENED--SO I'M IN THE CLEAR NOW, SPIDEY!
THANKS TO THAT FAR-OUT MUMBO-JUMBO MAN--AND TO YOU! I ALWAYS KNEW YOU WERE A RIGHT JOE!
WAIT'LL I TELL GROOVY GWENDY ABOUT ALL THIS!
GWEN! I HAD ALMOST FORGOTTEN--ABOUT HER AND FLASH!
NOW THAT HE'S A CIVILIAN AGAIN, HOW CAN I COMPETE WITH FLASH?
--ESPECIALLY WHEN I KNOW--HOW MUCH SHE HATES SPIDER-MAN!
NEXT:
THE GRINNING GIBBON!

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